

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members
FROM: Council Member Sherry Marquez
DATE: November 20, 2009
SUBJECT: **Report on the Activities of the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District**

Recommendation:

Receive a report of the proceedings and significant issues discussed at the November 17th, 2009, Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District Governing Board meeting.

Background:

The Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD) regulates stationary sources of air pollution, and is overseen by a Governing Board comprised of appointees from the City of Lancaster, the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County's Fifth Supervisorial District and one Public Member appointed by the balance of the Board. Mandated by state and federal laws, the AVAQMD was created as a separate, locally controlled air district out of the South Coast Air Quality Management District in 1991, and transitioned from an air pollution control district to an air quality management district in 2002.

At the November 17th, 2009, meeting, the Governing Board discussed the following significant items with AVAQMD staff (Staff):

- A Staff report regarding Air Quality Reporting difficulties encountered during the recent Station Fire due to greater than expected travel by finer pyro-generated particulate matter as a result the combination of the fire's enormous heat plume and local inversion layer.
- Approval of \$95,000 in Carl Moyer (State) funding for continued implementation of the AVAQMD's Voluntary Accelerated Vehicle Retirement Program, the local "scrap vehicle program"/"Cash for Clunkers" program that generate business for local auto dealerships, while enhancing local air quality by replacing older (≥ 20 years), less efficient vehicles with new, more fuel efficient and environmentally friendly vehicles.
- Ms. Marquez noted the increased problem of illegal "pot houses" in the Antelope Valley, and asked what consideration had been given by Staff in response to a recent SCE CEQA document to this issue and the impact these illicit activities impact on local air quality.

The remaining items approved by the AVAQMD were routine and/or adopted as consent items. The next regularly scheduled AVAQMD Governing Board Meeting is tentatively set for December 15th, 2009.