

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members
FROM: Council Member Sherry Marquez
DATE: December 14, 2010
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 16, 2010, 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.

The Governing Board met as regularly scheduled on November 16, 2010, discussed and/or approved the following significant items:

- The Board conducted a public hearing to consider the amendment of Rule 219 – Equipment Not Requiring a Permit. The purpose of this hearing was to amend Rule 219 to include agricultural equipment emission sources, because agricultural sources were not previously included. Public hearing was continued to January 18, 2011 regularly scheduled Board meeting.
- AVAQMD Staff provided the Board a legislative and regulatory update on aspects of the Federal Clean Air Act (CAA), §185; the Tailoring Rule; and forthcoming regulation of Greenhouse Gasses. The issue at hand is that the Antelope Valley is a “Severe 17” non-attainment area for ozone (O₃), meaning on average 17 days out of the month exceed CAA standards for O₃. If the EPA implements its proposed reduction of O₃ levels to 60 or 70ppm, Lancaster could possibly see 30 days out of a month of non-attainment for what are essentially background levels of O₃ locally.

The remaining items approved by the AVAQMD were routine and/or adopted as consent items. The next AVAQMD Governing Board Meeting is tentatively set for December 21, 2010.