

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members
FROM: Council Member Sherry Marquez
DATE: January 20, 2011
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 January 18, 2011, 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 January 18, 2011, discussed and/or approved the following significant items:

- The Board amended Rule 219 (*Equipment Not Requiring a Permit*) to include agricultural equipment emission sources, enabling the AVAQMD to permit previously not included agricultural sources locally. Staff has been working with the Farm Bureau and Ag community to better prepare/position local farmers for potential State (Carl Moyer) funds.
- Staff provided the Board an update on the Palmdale Power Plant (PPP) which is in the process of review by the California Energy Commission (CEC). The CEC is the ultimate permitting authority for the PPP, however AVAQMD does have input during this process, and will issue the PPP an air quality permit. The AVAQMD Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) determined that mitigation identified by the CEC for dust (PM 10) from unpaved road associated with the PPP project is unnecessary because the Antelope Valley is currently in attainment for PM 10. However, the Governing Board directed the APCO to not submit this determination to the CEC until which time the Board makes a decision on this subject. The AVAQMD presently has no Road Paving Rule to provide criteria for such a decision, and the Board's position is that as a governing body, it gives Staff direction as to what posture the District takes on a subject, or how the AVAQMD will be represented. This issue will be put on the agenda for further discussion at the February meeting.

The remaining items approved by the AVAQMD were routine and/or adopted as consent items. The next AVAQMD Governing Board Meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2011.