

Agenda Date: October 20, 2011
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Board Agenda Item

TO: Air Pollution Control District Board

FROM: Dave Van Mullem, Air Pollution Control Officer

CONTACT: Dave Van Mullem, Air Pollution Control Officer (961-8853)

SUBJECT: Implementation of 2008 Federal Ozone Standard

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file an update on the implementation of the 2008 federal eight-hour standard for ground-level ozone, and implications for Santa Barbara County.

DISCUSSION:

On September 22, 2011, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it will implement the 2008 eight-hour ozone standard of 0.075 parts per million (ppm), and listed Santa Barbara County as a probable “marginal” nonattainment area. Implementation of the 2008 ozone standard was delayed before now, and the County was considered in attainment of the previous federal eight-hour ozone standard of 0.08 ppm. Ground-level ozone is a principal component of smog.

EPA’s initial designation of nonattainment for the County may change, depending on a number of factors. Final designations are expected in mid 2012. If the County is designated nonattainment, we will face additional air quality planning requirements. The County is currently considered nonattainment for the California eight-hour ozone standard of 0.070 ppm.