

Agenda Date: March 16, 2006  
Agenda Placement: Regular  
Estimated Time: 5 minutes  
Continued Item: No

## Board Agenda Item

TO: Air Pollution Control District Board

FROM: Terry Dressler, Air Pollution Control Officer

CONTACT: Bobbie Bratz, 961-8890

SUBJECT: Clean Air Month and World Asthma Day 2006

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### RECOMMENDATION:

- Adopt attached Clean Air Month Resolution affirming APCD's commitment to raising awareness of health effects of air pollution and of the need to work for cleaner air.
- Select a Board Member to represent the APCD at the Santa Barbara County Education Office's Education Celebration event on Thursday, May 18 at approximately 5:30 PM at the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott in Buellton.

### DISCUSSION:

The American Lung Association has celebrated Clean Air Month in May for many years, with the first celebration of Clean Air Week in 1972. World Asthma Day is celebrated May 2, 2006. This year, APCD is working with the American Lung Association of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties on a number of Clean Air Month initiatives to raise awareness of the health effects of air pollution, and of ways we can work for cleaner air.

Activities will include the following:

- Distribution of a poster in Spanish and English on "Health Effects of Air Pollution," and information on air pollution's impacts on asthma.
- Outreach to encourage visits to our interactive kiosk display R2P2, the Robot Resource for Pollution Prevention, now on long-term display at the Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum.

- Distribution of fact sheets and information on: effects of diesel exhaust; the state's rules against idling of trucks, buses and school buses; and APCD's programs to help fund cleaner school buses, and cleaner diesel engines in agricultural and other equipment.
- Co-sponsorship of the Santa Barbara County Education Office's Education Celebration, an annual event honoring county teachers who have received special grants and other awards. APCD is one of several co-sponsors of the event, and also supports teacher grants for development of air pollution education programs. Last year, the air pollution education grant was awarded to teachers at Alice Shaw School in Orcutt, and APCD Board Member Susan Rose attended the event. This year, the grant is being awarded to a teacher at La Cumbre Junior High School in Santa Barbara, and the Education Celebration is scheduled for Thursday, May 18 at approximately 5:30 PM at the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott in Buellton.

APCD will also participate in Earth Day events around the county in April.

**Santa Barbara County  
Air Pollution Control District Board  
Resolution**

**Clean Air Month  
May 2006**

**Whereas**, the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District's mission is to protect the people and the environment of Santa Barbara County from the effects of air pollution; and

**Whereas**, health studies continue to show the damaging effects of ozone and particle pollution on human hearts and lungs; and

**Whereas**, diesel exhaust is a serious public health risk, considered the number one airborne carcinogen in California, responsible for 70 percent of the cancer risk in California from toxic air contaminants, and a contributor to asthma and other lung diseases and heart problems; and

**Whereas**, the California Air Resources Board has issued rules against idling of school buses, and diesel trucks and buses; and

**Whereas**, the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District has funding programs designed to help reduce diesel exhaust emissions; and

**Whereas**, the California Air Resources Board has declared environmental tobacco smoke to be a toxic air contaminant; and

**Whereas**, the American Lung Association has declared the month of May as Clean Air Month, and World Asthma Day is celebrated on May 2.

**Therefore**, be it resolved that the month of May 2006 is recognized as Clean Air Month, and May 2, 2006 is recognized as World Asthma Day. The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District does hereby confirm our commitment to ensure clean air for the citizens of Santa Barbara County and to raise awareness of the health effects of air pollution and ways individuals can work for cleaner air. We challenge every resident to actively participate in efforts to improve and protect the quality of the air we breathe.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret A. Connell, Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

APCD Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_