

On the Air

Working Together for Clean Air

Doug Allard joined APCD in 1987, and was Director beginning in 1993. He retired March 26, and Terry Dressler (see below) was appointed the new Director. *On the Air* asked Doug to reflect on accomplishments and challenges during his time as Director, and what he sees coming up for the agency in the years ahead.

What are you most proud of?

This past year the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) officially recognized our attainment of the federal ozone standard, after more than three decades working towards that goal. That's an achievement to be proud of. I'm also proud of the process we went through to get here, the community consensus we've been able to develop, and that it's happened on my watch. I give a lot of credit to our regulated community for working with us on this, and I have to say I'm tremendously proud of our staff.



The recent sendoff for retiring APCD Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) Doug Allard attracted many retired and current APCOs. Pictured, from left, back row: Larry Greene, APCO of Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (AQMD), Doug Quetin, APCO of Monterey Bay Unified APCD, Norm Covell, APCO of Sacramento Metro AQMD, Bob Carr, Retired APCO of San Luis Obispo County APCD, Larry Allen, current APCO of San Luis Obispo County APCD, Barry Wallerstein, APCO of the South Coast AQMD, Dave Crow, APCO of San Joaquin Valley APCD, and Mike Villegas, APCO of Ventura County APCD. Front row, from left: Dick Baldwin, retired APCO of Ventura County APCD, Doug Allard, Barbara Lee, APCO of Northern Sonoma County APCD, and Terry Dressler, current APCO of our own APCD.

Many others attended the sendoff for Allard, including APCD Board members, legislative representatives, area business and government leaders, and Allard's former coworkers from Aerovironment, Inc. Allard received resolutions from: the offices of State Assemblywoman Hannah-Beth Jackson and Congresswoman Lois Capps; the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association; and the South Coast Air Quality Management District. Several praised Allard's ability to work cooperatively. Said APCD Board Chair Cynthia Brock: "He leaves a great legacy not only in APCD achievements over the years but also in the people that he's brought up under him. Everyone has the same dedication to the mission and the same way of working together." Said Jim Kemp, Executive Director of Santa Barbara County Association of Governments: "SBCAG enjoys an unusual relationship with APCD that is somewhat unique in the state. In so many areas, the relationship between the air district and the association of governments can be a contentious one. Largely because of Doug, we have a special relationship here in our county." Said Barry Wallerstein, Executive Officer for the South Coast AQMD, "Doug has shown great leadership, and is considered by many to be one of the best APCOs the state has ever had."

APCD's New Director

Terry Dressler started as the new Director of APCD on March 29. He has more than twenty-six years experience in the air pollution control field, working at the Ventura and San Luis Obispo air pollution agencies before joining APCD in 1987. As a division manager at APCD he has managed the air monitoring, information technology,

modeling, compliance, rule development, and major source permitting programs.

Dressler reflected recently on the importance of consensus building and working cooperatively with the businesses APCD regulates: "Many times if you can get together and talk something over from a variety of

different perspectives you find common ground. It can take a little longer, but you end up with a better solution." He added, "I look forward to continuing to work for clean air with our community partners. We can't take clean air for granted. It's a public health issue—and it's also a quality of life issue."

Think about it: we've been able to achieve this goal during a time when the agency has gone from 113 positions to 60 positions, almost half the size we were earlier. We get feedback regularly from people at the state and federal level that we have one of the best local district programs in the country—that's a credit to our staff and our Board's consistent support of our mission.

Why retire at this particular time? Because this important goal has been achieved?

That's certainly a factor; you always want to go out on a high note. But I've always had a dream to retire early, to have some years to explore other things.

What were the best and worst surprises from your time at APCD?

The best surprise was the way the community responded and people came together around

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Working Together

the need to work for clean air. We got stakeholders of all stripes involved, particularly through our debates at our Community Advisory Council meetings and it's all been professional and cordial. In earlier years there were times when it was hellacious—contentious and divisive discussions—but in the past several years it's been very productive. I guess it just takes some time to develop trust and then build upon that to solve problems.

County Meets Newer Federal Ozone Standard

In April, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced the areas of the country that are out of attainment of a newer federal air quality standard, the eight-hour ozone standard, based on an eight-hour average of ozone levels. Many areas of California were not in attainment of this standard. Santa Barbara County was designated as an attainment area. However, the margin was extremely close; only a one part per billion difference in "design value" would have resulted in a non-attainment designation. As of August 2003, the county is considered in attainment of the one-hour ozone standard. The county attains the federal particulate matter standards as well; however the county's air continues to violate the state ozone and particulate matter standards, which are more protective of public health.

And the worst surprise?

I guess I'd say the worst surprise has been to see the USEPA retreat from controlling air emissions in revisions to the New Source Review rule—it's gone far beyond what I expected or what any of us expected. It's very disconcerting. Some of the effects that have to do with power plant emissions may not affect us directly so much in this county, but the impacts nationwide will be far reaching.

What were some of the high points in your time at APCD?

Accepting the President's Award for Sustainable Development from Vice President Al Gore in Washington D.C. in 1996—that was a definite high point. More recently, taking a leadership role in working to control marine shipping emissions has been another high point.

What's your greatest concern about the agency as it heads into the future?

I'm definitely concerned about complacency, about backsliding. We've attained one of the important air quality standards, and people can feel we've run the race and cut through the ribbon at the end.

And now we can relax?

Yes, some people may feel that way. But of course we can't really relax. We haven't yet attained the state ozone standard and we attained the new federal ozone standard by just a whisker. We have to keep doing all the things that got us here. Keep enforcing the rules, working to reduce pollution. I've even heard some people say, 'We've reached the standard, do we even need the agency or air pollution rules anymore?' Well of course we do. We all want to breathe clean air.

That's one of the biggest challenges that I see ahead for the organization. That, and addressing pollution sources that aren't under local control—such as cars and trucks, or large ocean-going ships.

The organization is strong, and moving in the right direction. The transition will be smooth, and I'm glad to leave the agency in such good hands, with the appointment of Terry Dressler as the new Director. I also want to thank everyone who made the last ten years so rewarding for me: our Board, our staff, and the community members I've had a chance to work with and get to know. Serving the public has its highs and lows, but everyone we've worked with has shown tremendous respect for the job the APCD is supposed to do: protect the public health.

Kids Care for Clean Air Calendar Contest: Entries due by June 25!

Kids between the ages of 5 and 12 who are Santa Barbara County residents are invited to submit entries for the

2005 Calendar, a joint project of APCD and Traffic Solutions (a division of Santa Barbara County Association of Governments).

Entries should be bright-colored pictures of different fun ways to get around without creating air pollution or traffic jams, with a few words about that on the picture. The words can be in English, or Spanish, or both. Pictures can also show why air pollution is bad, and why we need to keep our air clean. Twelve winners will receive 25 calendars, their picture on one of the calendar months, and a \$50 savings bond. A grand prize winner will see his or her picture on the calendar cover, and will receive a bicycle and a \$100 savings bond.



For more info, see www.sbcapcd.org/contest.htm.

Don't Top Off Your Tank!

APCD Board Roundup

Following are the highlights of the January and March Board meetings.

January

Selected Cynthia Brock as Chair and David Smyser as Vice-Chair for the APCD Board in 2004; appointed Cynthia Brock as the APCD Board representative to the South Central Coast Basinwide Control Council.

Selected Board members Daniel Secord, David Smyser, Richard Weinberg, Marty Mariscal, and DeWayne Holmdahl to serve on the APCD Hearing Board Nominating Committee during calendar year 2004.

Selected Board members Cynthia Brock, David Smyser, Marty Mariscal, Daniel Secord, and Bill Traylor to serve on the APCD Executive Committee during 2004.

Adopted a resolution delegating authority to the Control Officer to file actions in Small Claims Court.

Received and filed a report on the state of the County's air quality and related issues.

March

Accepted \$346,636 in supplemental grant revenue from the US EPA and approved associated expenditures.

Adopted and presented a Resolution of Appreciation to John Nicholas for his years of service at the Air Pollution Control District.

Adopted and presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Doug Allard upon the occasion of his retirement.

Adopted a resolution proclaiming April 18, 2004 as Earth Day 2004, May 2004 as Clean Air Month, and May 15-23, 2004 as Bike Week 2004.

Stop fueling when the gas pump shuts off!

In April, APCD launched a "Don't Top Off" campaign to educate people that it's important to stop fueling a gas tank when the nozzle shuts off automatically. Said Bobbie Bratz, APCD's "Don't Top Off" Coordinator, "April marks the beginning of our

smog season in Santa Barbara County, so it's a good time to think about things we can do to help keep our air clean. This is an easy one to remember, every time you're at the gas station."

The campaign includes advertising at county gas stations, radio advertisements, new informational stickers on gasoline

pumps, educational posters for display at gasoline stations, and outreach to gasoline station owners and employees. The message urges people to stop topping off gas tanks to "save your money, save your health and save your planet."

For more info, and to download a fact sheet, see www.sbcapcd.org.

Save Your Money

Once the nozzle clicks off, stop fueling. If you continue to pump gas after the first click, the gas you're paying for is getting stuck in the hose, or going to spill on to the next person.



Save Your Health

Gasoline vapors are bad to breathe. When you smell gas it means you are breathing harmful substances that are in the air. Topping off your tank damages the vapor recovery system that's designed to reduce the amount of toxic vapors in the air and protect your health.



Save Your Planet

Gas vapors also include compounds that are involved in smog formation. Smog harms our lungs and our environment. Plus, when the vapor recovery system isn't working properly and gas spills on the ground, the residue can run off into our creeks and our ocean.





APCD Board Calendar

Board of Directors

- Supervisor Naomi Schwartz
First District
Santa Barbara County
- Supervisor Susan Rose
Second District
Santa Barbara County
- Supervisor Gail Marshall
Third District
Santa Barbara County
- Supervisor Joni Gray
Fourth District
Santa Barbara County
- Supervisor Joe Centeno
Fifth District
Santa Barbara County
- Mayor Bill Traylor
City of Buellton
- Mayor Dick Weinberg
City of Carpinteria
- Mayor Cynthia Brock
City of Goleta
- Councilmember Carlos Aguilera
City of Guadalupe
- Councilmember DeWayne Holmdahl
City of Lompoc
- Councilmember Dan Secord
City of Santa Barbara
- Councilmember Marty Mariscal
City of Santa Maria
- Mayor David Smyser
City of Solvang

All meetings start at 2 p.m. For final meeting agendas, call the APCD Board Clerk, 961-8853.

June 17*

Board of Supervisors
Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

August 19

Board of Supervisors
Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

October 21

Board of Supervisors
Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

December 16

Board of Supervisors
Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

*June 17th meeting starts at 1:30pm.

Community Advisory Council

The APCD Community Advisory Council meets the second Wednesday of every month at the Days Motor Inn in Buellton. The public is welcome. For more information, call Linda Beard, 961-8853.

Car Free Winners

Becky Hebert (below, on right, pictured with Canaan, Tosh, Huck and Scout) won the grand prize folding bike in the "Come to Earth Day Car Free and WIN" campaign sponsored by the Santa Barbara Car Free project in April. The project, led by the APCD, is a partnership of more than 90 area businesses, agencies, and individuals dedicated to promoting car free transportation to, and around, Santa Barbara for cleaner air. Other winners registering at the APCD/Car Free booths at the Earth Day celebrations in Santa Barbara and at Vandenberg Air Force Base won roundtrip tickets on Amtrak's Pacific Surfliner train.

On April 20, the Santa Barbara Car Free project received a 2004 Environmental Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 9. The project was the only EPA Environmental Award winner in Santa Barbara County, and was one of only nine winners of the award in California. On March 24, the project received a 2004 Tourism Marketing Excellence Award from the California Travel and Tourism Commission (CTTC) at the annual California Tourism Conference, co-sponsored by the CTTC, the California Travel Industry Association and the state Office of Tourism.

Said APCD's Mary Byrd, the Santa Barbara Car Free Project Manager, "It's pretty exciting for the project to receive a top environmental award and a top business award in the same time period. It's a tribute to the power of partnership. Many, many thanks to all our partners." For more information, see www.santabarbaracarfree.org.



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For further information on items in this newsletter, or to be added to our subscription list, please call Bobbie Bratz, 961-8890 or Email bratzb@sbcapcd.org.



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Our Vision  Clean Air



Green Building Strategies

Green Building strategies were featured recently in the May 1st "Parade of Green Building" organized by The Sustainability Project in Santa Barbara. The new County-owned building that houses APCD, known as "Casa Nueva," was one of the featured buildings on the parade tour. Casa Nueva cost less per square foot to build than other recent office buildings built by the county, and has many features designed to be environmentally friendly and save money at the same time.

For example, the building:

- Is designed to be 20% more efficient than 2001 Title 24 energy requirements.
- Uses interior finish wood from sustainably harvested and 3rd party-certified forests.
- Required fewer watts of lighting per square foot than most buildings.
- Is surrounded by native, drought tolerant landscaping (except wisteria).

Selected highlights of the building's green features follow, to see more, visit: www.sbcapcd.org/grnbldg.htm.

Energy Use and Climate Control

The shape of the building is narrow and long to provide more workstations with access to operable windows, natural light and ventilation. Trellis and fabric



Casa Nueva's shade 'sails' are a distinct feature.

shades (to be replaced by mature wisteria vines) shade the south and west sides of the building, reducing the heat load from the windows. High performance glazing on the south and west facing windows also reduce the heat load from the windows.

The heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system is able to run on fresh air when the outside temperature is acceptable,

reducing the energy needed for heating and cooling. Roof sails will lower the temperature of the roof, and provide shading and some cooling of the intake air, reducing the energy needed for additional cooling. The efficient

lighting system reduces energy needs for cooling, because lights are a large source of interior building heat.

Materials

The building was constructed with steel framing, which comes from highly recyclable materials and is fully recyclable. Wood use was minimized, emphasizing decorative, rather than structural use. All interior finish wood

(window sills, guardrails, and accents) and exterior trellises are maple or certified sustainably harvested teak-like Ipe and Pao Lope. Self-adhesive modular carpeting does not off-gas, is made from recycled materials, and allows for replacement of individual tiles when necessary, reducing both waste and the use of new materials. Exposed ceilings and steel columns reduce the use of gypsum.

Exposed concrete slabs in the lobby, kitchen, and lab reduce the use of flooring materials. Custom cabinetry is made from Plyboo, a highly renewable bamboo wood. Low- and no-VOC paints were used for interior and exterior painting. Exterior shade panels and restroom stalls are made out of #2 recyclable plastic. Panels have a finite life and will become redundant when the wisteria vines mature. Pressure treated wood (required for ground contact) is treated to eliminate potential chrome and arsenic groundwater contamination.

For more on the building's environmentally friendly features, see www.sbcapcd.org/grnbldg.htm.

Green Award nominations due by June 18!

Over the past 10 years, more than 50 organizations in Santa Barbara County have been honored with Green Awards for environmentally friendly business practices. The Green Award recognizes companies, organizations, and schools for voluntary activities that result in cleaner air or water, less waste, less traffic, conservation of energy and natural resources, or reduced use of hazardous materials. The Green Award program is organized by the Green Award Consortium, made up of APCD, the Community Environmental Council, Santa Barbara County Water Agency, Santa Barbara County Public Works, and Traffic Solutions, a division of Santa Barbara County Association of Governments. The Consortium is accepting nominations through June 18: see www.greendifference.org for all the info! (Government agencies and individuals are not eligible.)

Powering Business with the Sun

Great White Dental Lab, a Santa Maria-based dental laboratory using porcelain kilns, opened its doors in April to showcase the completed installation of a 100 kW solar array that supplies more than 100% of the facility's energy needs.

The last issue of *On the Air* described the beginning of the installation of the solar panels in the company's parking lot, where the array functions as a carport, providing shade for employees' cars. Jim Spallino, President of Great White Dental Lab, displayed computer software that allows him to see in real time how much power his facility is using at any given time, and how much power the array is supplying back to the electrical grid, running his electric meter backwards. The display also shows him how many tons of greenhouse gases are prevented by using the solar power instead of power from the electrical grid.

Said Spallino: "If you have a good business model, and you're thinking five to ten years out, as you should be, then this works. This makes great business sense—and it feels good to be doing something that's good for the environment and good for our long-term energy picture." The net cost of the system was \$400,000 after taking into account state and federal tax credits, and a depreciation schedule. Using today's energy prices, Spallino estimates the payback period for the solar array



(from left) Michael Doman of Shell Solar, with Norm Teixeira and Daniel Ringstmeyer of Solar Power Systems, Inc., demonstrates a solar panel in front of the 100kW solar array at Great White Dental Lab in Santa Maria.

purchase will be five and a half years. If energy prices go up, he estimates the payback period will be closer to four years.

Norm Teixeira of Solar Power Systems, Inc., the Santa Maria-based company that put together the solar package for Great White Dental, noted that Teixeira Farms has just broken ground on a solar installation to power a booster motor and pumps for two large wells. Solar Power Systems is a channel partner of Shell Solar, which supplied the solar equipment, and designed the installation.

Michael Doman, North American Channel Sales Manager for Shell Solar, noted that when the Teixeira Farms array is installed (expected by August) it will

Teixeira, who is retired from management at Teixeira Farms, is interested in seeing this potential for solar power on farms realized. He is also working with a range of other industries and public agencies to structure arrangements that will guarantee lower electric bills over time in connection with solar installations.

Said Doman at the Great White Dental open house, "During the week, this system is supplying more than the facility needs – even on a day like today when the air conditioning is running full blast, and the facility's kilns are using power all day long to fire the porcelain. Then on weekends, when the Lab is closed, the solar power is providing the energy supply for 264 homes in the area."

For more information on solar and other energy sources, see www.sbcapcd.org/energycons.htm.



The solar panels were installed in the company's parking lot, where they provide shade for employees' cars.