

April 20, 2018

Lisa Streator  
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Nipomo, CA 93444

Board Members  
SLO County Air Pollution Control District  
433 Roberto Court  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Re: Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (ODSVRA)

Dear District Board Members:

I am submitting this letter to express my concern for the misleading information that continues to spread in regards to the Oceano Dunes State Vehicle Recreational Area ("ODSVRA") The Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) have been consistently referencing the crystalline silica as a byproduct of the OHV riding in the dune area. They have repeatedly stated the OHV is the only reason for the crystalline silica and continually push for more reduced riding area and dust mitigation steps to reduce it.

It has come to the attention of the public, that the APCD and APCO have not been completely transparent. The claims of crystalline silica from OHV recreation at ODSVRA, have no scientific evidence to back them up. With a history of manipulation of the readings, it makes it false evidence to base findings on only the readings given by the APCD and APCO. To fully gain trust in these readings, a full scientific reporting should be done by a non-bias, accredited, person or team that can prove these claims 100%.

With the recent study done by Dr. Brian Palenik of the Scripps of Oceanography at UC San Diego (Scripps), it brings even more concern as to the validity of APCD and APCO's readings.

His study, "Marine Contributions to Aerosol Particulates in a Coastal Environment." States, "The airborne particulate matter predominately impacting the region on high episode days does not originate from on offshore source." This is completely opposite information the APCD and APCO have been giving to the homeowners and public for years in regards to the OHV recreation.

The goal of reducing OHV recreation in the dune area, and/or stopping it has been mentioned and pushed as a way to stop the crystalline silica. Dr. Palenik's findings show that it will not stop the problems. The dust will continue to blow, as it has for hundreds of years, there will still be other bacterial PM10 particles in that dust.

If the APCD and APCO are sure the cause of all particles in the Trilogy area are from the OHV recreation, wouldn't a full scientific report, showing this to be the cause, be warranted? If it's proven not to be the cause, which Dr. Palenik's research supports, are APCD and APCO willing to re-open the closed riding areas? More riding area to the South should be opened to off-set the closure of current areas. There should be a, "no net loss" policy in effect if the only area of concern for the PM10 particles is the area currently being mitigated for dust. Without undeniable evidence that the OHV recreation is the cause of the PM10, it's unreasonable and unfair, for the APCD and APCO to continue pushing for current and more mitigations and closures.

There are too many questions that have not been answered, there are too many claims and readings that have not been proven or backed up to continue on the current path. The homeowners and OHV enthusiasts deserve more.

Sincerely,

Lisa Streator