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SOUTH COUNTY COMMUNITY MONITORING PROJECT
PUBLIC MEETING
January 16, 2012 at 5:30 pm
Mesa Middle School, Arroyo Grande

The SLO County Air Pollution Control District will hold a public meeting on January 16 at 5:30 pm at Mesa Middle School in Arroyo Grande to share results of a special air monitoring study that assessed the neighborhood impacts of the windblown dust from the Oceano Dunes during high wind conditions.

The APCD instituted a South County Community Monitoring Project in the spring of 2012 to measure the extent of the dust plume and its impact on the Nipomo and Oceano communities as a means of providing affected residents more information about the impacts of the windblown dust in their neighborhoods. APCD staff will discuss the results of the recently completed Project, including changes to air quality forecasting maps in the region to provide the community with tools to stay informed on the air quality in their region.

The study was conducted during the spring of 2012 to capture the season with the highest winds and prevalence of dust episodes. Over 20 air quality monitors were deployed throughout the Nipomo Mesa and Oceano to gather data to better define the path, extent and airborne particulate concentration of the dust plume. The study focused on two primary impact areas in the South County: the Nipomo Mesa neighborhoods directly downwind of the dunes, and the Oceano neighborhoods adjacent to Pier Ave and the beach. Study results are being used to enhance the APCD's air quality forecasting abilities for the South County and the information available to affected residents and the media.

For additional information on this meeting, please contact the SLO County APCD at 805-781-5912.

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