



Air Pollution Control District
San Luis Obispo County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 23, 2016

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BETTER BREATHER ALERT

BLOWING DUST IS IMPACTING THE NIPOMO AREA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA, – The San Luis Obispo (SLO) County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and County Public Health Department are advising the public of deteriorating air quality in the Oceano Dunes/Nipomo Mesa area due to blowing dust and sand on Wednesday, March 23, 2016. Blowing sand and dust is forecasted to occur from Noon to 7 pm, with the dust forecasted to peak from 1 pm to 6 pm. Very sensitive individuals such as infants, as well as children and adults with existing respiratory or heart conditions, may experience adverse health effects during blowing dust periods.

County officials recommend that the public reschedule outdoor activities to occur when there is no visible dust. If blowing dust and sand is visible in the air, County officials recommend all adults and children avoid strenuous outdoor activity, remain indoors as much as possible, and set any heating/air conditioning/ventilation systems to recirculation. The public is advised to consult their doctor if they are experiencing health problems in an area with blowing dust and sand. If staying indoors does not provide relief, temporarily leaving the area and going to a location where the sand is not blowing and dust is not visible, is advised.

County officials will continue to closely monitor air pollution levels throughout our region, as forecasts can change. Current air quality conditions and air quality forecasts for San Luis Obispo County are available to the public via the APCD website slocleanair.org/air/AirForecasting_map3.php. The forecasted AQI is also available to the public via email. Sign up to receive the daily air quality forecast via email by visiting slocleanair.org/air/airforecasting.php. A recorded message describing San Luis Obispo County air quality conditions is available by calling (805) 781-4390.

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