

I am Linda Reynolds from Nipomo and a Member of the Concerned Citizens for Clean Air.

For years our group has been concerned about the health of the thousands of people living, working and going to school on the Nipomo Mesa. This concern is due to the poor air quality resulting from the OHV activity on the Oceano Dunes.

Now there is a new health concern regarding the air quality in our area that affects the health of people of all ages living in poor air quality areas.

There is emerging research, including a study from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health suggesting that breathing more polluted air over many years may worsen the effects of Covid 19.

Also, according to the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health published June 17, 2020 a positive correlation has been observed between the spread of the virus and air pollution. The abstract from the study shows “that covid 19 could have an air transmission and atmospheric particulate matter (PM) that could create a suitable environment for transporting the virus at greater distances than those considered for close contact.” “The new coronavirus has been shown to trigger an inflammatory storm that would be sustained in the case of pre-exposure to polluting agents.” These are direct quotes from the journal article.

So, in conclusion I want to thank the APCD for all its work on this serious issue and now more than ever, to be very aggressive and diligent in solving a serious community issue in a rapid manner.

Respectfully,

Linda Reynolds
9/23/2020