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OZONE LEVELS EXPECTED TO RESULT IN EXCEEDANCE OF FEDERAL AIR QUALITY STANDARD
POOR AIR QUALITY IS FORECASTED TO IMPACT EASTERN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

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 the potential for poor air quality in the valleys and mountains of eastern San Luis Obispo County on July 10 - 11, 2012.

The hot, sunny weather combined with local pollution and pollutants transported to SLO County from outside of the county have caused a significant increase in ozone concentrations. Ozone concentrations are forecasted to exceed the State and Federal air quality standards in the Carrizo Plains and Red Hills areas and mountains and valleys of eastern San Luis Obispo County. Moderate air quality is forecasted to occur in Paso Robles, Atascadero, San Miguel, Templeton, Santa Margarita, Creston, Shandon and surrounding communities.

Smoke from the Turkey Fire near Parkfield in Monterey County may add to the poor air quality conditions. County health officials recommend that residents of these areas that are sensitive to air pollution limit outdoor activities. Infants, elderly and sensitive individuals with existing respiratory or heart conditions are most at risk and may experience adverse health effects, especially during outdoor exertion. SLO County residents can reduce air pollution by limiting driving and other air pollution causing activities.

County officials will continue to closely monitor air pollution levels throughout our region. The forecasted air quality index (AQI) is available on the website http://www.slocleanair.org/air/AirForecasting_map.php. The AQI focuses on health effects individuals may experience within a few hours or days after breathing polluted air. The forecasted AQI is also available to the public via email. Sign up to receive the daily air quality forecast via email by visiting <http://www.slocleanair.org/air/AirForecasting.php>

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