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BLOWING DUST IS FORECASTED TO IMPACT THE NIPOMO AREA

EXCEEDANCE OF FEDERAL AIR QUALITY STANDARDS FORECASTED FOR UPCOMING WEEKEND

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 deteriorating air quality in the Oceano Dunes/Nipomo Mesa area. Blowing sand and dust is forecasted from Tuesday, May 29 through Monday, June 4 due to windy conditions. Winds are expected to be the strongest from Saturday, June 2 through Monday, June 4, when there is the potential for exceedances of the Federal Air Quality Standards for particulate matter. The blowing dust is forecasted to occur from noon to 7 pm, with the dust peaking from 1 pm to 5 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. When federal air quality standards are exceeded, healthy individuals may also be affected.

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 your doctor if you 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 and provide updated forecasts on the APCD website [slocleanair.org](http://www.slocleanair.org). 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>. A recorded message describing San Luis Obispo County air quality conditions is available by calling (805) 781-4390.

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