

Dear Hearing Board Members,

I have received 34 “Early Air Alert” texts so far this year. When that occurs, I have about an hour to work in my yard or go for a walk before the air quality is bad. Concerned Citizens for Clean air has already sent you charts from Airnow.gov. You should be aware, that when you see Mesa 2 or CDF at #1 in the country, that may have continued for 3 to 5 hours. I try to capture each hour in order to see how long the bad air lasts.

Last October, the Hearing Board asked for a measurable compliance standard. I hope that has been accomplished. Unfortunately, I will not be present in the meeting to make a comment. I and many others are not satisfied with the modelling approach used by the APCD and SAG. I would prefer that my air quality be as close to that which other beach towns enjoy. For example, Morro Bay has dunes but no ohv riding, what is their air quality like?? There are dunes up and down the coast that have real time and measurable data, not modelled data.

Last October, State Parks declared that the air pollution had been reduced below the 1939 modelled emissions. Therefore, their job is done. I disagree. A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency representative once told me there is no “safe” level of particulate matter (10 or 2.5). In the future we may learn that particulate matter is much more dangerous than we think today. Read about it at this link.

<https://www.epa.gov/pm-pollution/particulate-matter-pm-basics>

That is why I urge you to use an actual background level as a goal. Not complete elimination of the dust, but reduced to a measurable and comparable standard of what other beaches experience in California.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I will see you in October.

Sincerely,

Rachelle Toti