

Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Community Air Risk Evaluation Program 2004 - 2005

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) has initiated a Community Air Risk Evaluation (CARE) program to determine health risk associated with toxic air pollutants in the Bay Area. When completed, the study will be a tool the Air District can use to reduce toxic air pollution in areas with the highest health risk. The program will look at all toxic air pollutants with an emphasis on diesel exhaust, which is thought to be the major source of airborne health risk in California.

Program Highlights and Goals:

- The goal of the CARE program is to evaluate health risk from air toxics in the nine Bay Area counties.
- The program was initiated in July 2004 with an estimated cost for fiscal 2004-05 of \$1,000,000.
- The projected time frame for completion of the study is two to three years.
- An Advisory Committee of diverse stakeholders will assist the Air District.
- The program includes enhanced air monitoring that will better determine the relative contribution of air pollution sources, including vehicles, industrial emissions and/or wood burning to ambient particulate levels.
- As a result of the study, a “gridded” emission inventory (emissions per square mile) for diesel particulates and other air toxics will be developed for the Bay Area.
- A cumulative risk assessment will be conducted for stationary sources within a selected community.
- Based on the technical analyses, the Air District can focus on reducing toxic pollutants in areas with the highest health risk by using incentives, grant program funding and regulatory controls.
- For further information, please contact Scott Lutz, Manager of the Toxic Evaluation Section, at slutz@baaqmd.gov or (415) 749-4676 or Eric Stevenson, Manager of the Air Monitoring Section, at estevenson@baaqmd.gov or (415) 749-4695.