BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS

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Air District Adopts Bay Area Ozone Strategy

The Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) adopted the Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy, a regional blueprint for making progress toward meeting the State one-hour air quality standard for ground-level ozone.

"The 2005 Ozone Strategy is a significant component of the Air District's commitment to protecting the public's health and the environment by achieving healthy air in the Bay Area," said Air District Executive Officer Jack Broadbent. "While ozone levels in the region have improved significantly over the years, there is still a need for additional control measures in order to meet the State one-hour ozone standard. The 2005 Ozone Strategy includes measures to reduce emissions of ozone-forming pollutants from transportation sources, industrial facilities, commercial processes and other equipment."

Ozone levels – as measured by peak concentrations and the number of days over the State one-hour ozone standard – have declined substantially as a result of aggressive programs by the Air District, MTC, and regional, State and federal partners. This represents great progress in improving public health for Bay Area residents.

The Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy provides useful background information on topics including the Bay Area's emission inventory, historical ozone trends and the implementation status of past control measures. It was created in cooperation with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), and included stakeholder input throughout the planning process.

The Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy also discusses related air quality issues of interest including the Air District's Community Air Risk Evaluation (CARE) program and public involvement process, local benefits of ozone control measures, the environmental review process, national ozone standards, photochemical modeling, climate change, fine particulate matter, and addresses how the region will reduce transport of ozone and ozone precursors to neighboring air basins.

Copies of the Bay Area 2005 Ozone Strategy and the related environmental impact report can be ordered by calling the Air District Planning Division at (415) 749-4995 or viewed at: http://www.baaqmd.gov/pln/plans/ozone/2005_strategy/index.htm
http://www.baaqmd.gov/pln/plans/ozone/ceqa_process/index.htm

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