



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA ADVISORY

Air District seeks public input on planning strategies to reduce particulate matter in the Bay Area

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District invites the public to a workshop addressing the federal air quality planning process for reducing harmful particulate matter, or PM, in the region. The Air District is also soliciting feedback on a draft fine particulate matter, or PM2.5, emissions inventory and a draft report on PM in the Bay Area.

WHAT: Workshop / Webcast: Reducing Particulate Matter Pollution in the San Francisco Bay Area

WHEN: Friday, September 14, 2012
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Air District Board Room
939 Ellis Street, 7th Floor, San Francisco

Particulate matter, or PM, is a pollutant made up of tiny particles suspended in the air we breathe. Studies indicate that PM2.5 is the air pollutant that poses the greatest health risk to Bay Area residents. Exposure to particulates may cause a variety of adverse health impacts, both short and long-term, including aggravated asthma, bronchitis, decreased lung function, heart attack and premature death.

The purpose of the workshop is to discuss air quality planning for PM2.5. The Air District will present a draft PM2.5 emissions inventory to be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to fulfill federal air quality planning requirements, and a draft report on PM in the Bay Area. The Air District will solicit public comment on these documents, which will be presented to the Board of Directors in fall 2012.

The Air District has posted the draft report, emissions inventory and supporting documents on its PM planning web page: www.baaqmd.gov/pmplanning. Written comments on these documents should be submitted to pmplanning@baaqmd.gov by 5:00 p.m. on September 24.

If you have questions about the workshop, please contact Jackie Winkel at jwinkel@baaqmd.gov or 415-749-4933. To view a webcast of the workshop please visit: www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/Plans/PM-Planning.aspx.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.

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