

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 18, 2019

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Air District hosts media availability after Wednesday vote to strengthen wood burning regulation

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District will hold a media availability after the Board of Directors' vote on proposed amendments to the Air District's wood burning regulation on Wednesday, November 20 at 2 p.m. at the Bay Area Metro Center in San Francisco. The proposed amendments are one action in a larger effort by the Air District to reduce the health and air quality impacts of wildfires.

Air District air quality experts, UCSF physician Mary L. Williams, MD and representatives from the American Lung Association will be available for interviews.

Spanish, Mandarin and Cantonese speakers will also be available for interviews.

WHAT: Air quality and health experts available to discuss the proposed rule

amendments to protect air quality & public health during wildfires

WHO: Bay Area Air Quality Management District

American Lung Association

WHEN: Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 2 p.m.

WHERE: Bay Area Metro Center

Bay Area Conference Room, 6th Floor

375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

BACKGROUND: Previously, wood burning was prohibited during Winter Spare the Air Alerts

from November through February. The proposed rule amendments would extend the ban on wood burning year-round when particulate matter pollution reaches unhealthy levels. The extension of the wood burning prohibition ensures high concentrations of air pollution, such as those that occur during wildfires, are not increased by wood burning activities. More information on the

proposed amendments can be found here: https://bit.ly/2KzORnA.

The <u>Bay Area Air Quality Management District</u> is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality and the global climate in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>YouTube</u>.

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