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## Air District to represent Bay Area at COP26

Public encouraged to engage with Air District representatives at live briefings

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air District is sending representatives to attend the United Nations Climate Change Conference, or COP26, in Glasgow, Scotland, from Sunday, October 31 – Friday, November 12.

Air District Executive Officer Jack Broadbent and members of the Board of Directors Davina Hurt and John Bauters will conduct a series of Twitter Live events throughout the conference. Bay Area residents are invited to join the discussion, ask questions and share their concerns by connecting with the Air District on Twitter and Facebook.

"With the devastating impacts of our changing climate already being felt throughout the world, there is an urgent need for swift and sweeping climate action. COP 26 provides a critical opportunity to learn about cutting-edge technologies, innovative financing and pioneering policy approaches," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "The Air District is sending representatives to connect with international climate leaders and policy makers to support our work and share our successes, so that these may be replicated around the globe. Through action and leadership, we will move aggressively to make carbon neutrality in the Bay Area a reality."

"We cannot deny the increasing impacts of climate change in the Bay Area and globally," said Davina Hurt, Air District board member. "This is especially true in disadvantaged communities right here in the Bay Area. COP26 provides the opportunity to share strategies and learn what climate actions others are taking around the globe so we can work smarter to protect our most vulnerable residents."

"As the effects of climate change become more severe, it's important to remember that we are not all impacted equally," said John Bauters, Air District board member. "Disadvantaged communities in the Bay Area and around the globe are hardest hit by the catastrophic effects of climate change. I am honored to be a part of COP26 and contribute to the global effort to solve this most urgent crisis."

COP26 brings together the world's leaders to accelerate the implementation of climate protection strategies. This year's summit is the first five-year checkpoint following the signing of the Paris Agreement, an international treaty on climate change, to gauge progress on the defined targets and expedite action towards its goals.

COP26 participation will enable the Air District to learn about revolutionary technologies being deployed and policies being enacted around the world that can be replicated in the Bay Area. The Air District will also share agency knowledge, successes and strategies that have helped to mitigate climate change at the local level. Equity and environmental justice are lead themes of this year's conference, which will also inform the Air District's work in this area.

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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