



Skylines

November/December 2015

Beijing Environmental Protection Bureau visits California

On December 16, 2015, our District hosted two visitors from the Beijing Environmental Protection Bureau. Liu Xin and Zeng Jinghai were in California to learn about our air quality management programs, and their visit was timely, as Beijing called its first “red alert” for smog in December. Our visitors expressed an interest in hearing about our programs for forecasting air quality and rule development.

Mike Villegas, the District’s Executive Officer, gave an overview of Ventura County’s air quality issues and our progress to date on achieving the state and federal air quality standards. This included our process of monitoring air quality to determine where we have problems and the extent of the problem. We then covered our planning process to determine the amount of emissions reductions needed to achieve the air quality standards, and to identify the control measures that will provide the necessary emission reductions. Our visitors were quite interested in hearing about our



(L to R) Supervisor John Zaragoza; Linda Le, County Treasurer/Tax Collector; Zeng Jinghai, BEPB; Oxnard Mayor Pro Tem Carmen Ramirez; Liu Xin, BEPB; Port Hueneme Councilmember Jonathan Sharkey; Mike Villegas, APCO

rulemaking process to implement the control measures. We reviewed how our permit program provides regulated facilities with a single document listing the provisions needed to comply with all applicable air pollution requirements. We also discussed our inspection program.

Mallory Ham, the manager of the District’s Monitoring Division, provided an excellent overview of our air quality forecasting and agricultural burning programs. The presentation covered how District staff review meteorological and previous day air quality data in preparing our forecast.

The operation of our atmospheric profiler, located at the Simi landfill, was also discussed along with the data this equipment provides.

Due to the strong interest in how emission standards are set for facilities, we went into additional detail on our rulemaking process. The process of how we develop proposals for emission standards in our rules was the focus of the discussion. While the structure of government in the United States and China are quite different, the underlying need to work with the regulated facilities is similar. We stressed the importance of proposing standards that are technically feasible and cost-effective. Once the
(Continued on page 3)

INSIDE

Board Highlights for:

**November 13, 2015,
December 8, 2015,
and
January 12, 2016**

Calendar

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Second Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.
Board Chambers
Administration Building
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura

Upcoming meetings:
March 8, 2016

APCD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Fourth Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Large Conference Room
669 County Square Drive
Ventura

Next meeting:
February 23, 2016

CLEAN AIR FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Anacapa Conference Room
669 County Square Drive, 2nd
Floor, Ventura

Next meeting:
February 22, 2016

"No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

APCD HEARING BOARD

Mondays, 5:30 p.m., as needed
Board Chambers
Administration Building
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura

Next meeting:
To Be Announced

SOUTH CENTRAL COAST BASINWIDE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL COUNCIL

Santa Barbara APCD
260 North San Antonio Road
Santa Barbara

Next meeting:
February 17, 2016 (tentative)

For more information, call Mike Villegas at 645-1440.

APCD RULE WORKSHOPS

Next meeting:
February 4, 2016

See Rule Development page on our website www.vcapcd.org

Air Pollution Control Board

John Zaragoza, District 5, Chair
Doug Tucker, Fillmore, Vice Chair
Steve Bennett, District 1
Linda Parks, District 2
Kathy Long, District 3
Peter Foy, District 4
Mike Morgan, Camarillo
Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard
Jonathan Sharkey, Pt. Hueneme
David Pollock, Moorpark
Cheryl Heitmann, Ventura, Alternate

Ventura County

Air Pollution Control District
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Air Pollution Control Officer

Michael Villegas

Skylines

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Directory

General Information **645-1400**
Fax **645-1444**

Website **vcapcd.org**

Agricultural burning 654-2807

Complaints 645-1445
7 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon-Fri

Complaints (recording) 654-2797

Monitoring Division 662-6959

Permit processing 645-1401

Permit renewal 645-1404

Public information 645-1415

Email address: info@vcapcd.org

regulated community feels the District will be reasonable and is willing to consider their input, the process of setting emission standards is well under way. While this process can be time consuming, establishing consensus on how best to achieve these emission reductions is priceless. Our visitors were interested in our District Advisory Committee, which reviews all of our proposed new and amended rules.

To wrap up the day's activities, we toured the Houweling's Tomatoes facility

near Camarillo. This facility is remarkable and was awarded the 2011 California Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award. The facility operates 125 acres of greenhouses growing tomatoes and cucumbers. They produce in excess of 24 times the amount of produce as traditional field farming (the 125 acres of greenhouses produce the equivalent output of 3,000 acres). The facility includes cogeneration equipment consisting of natural-gas-fired engines providing heat and power to the greenhouse operation.

Excess power generated by the cogeneration equipment is provided to the grid. In addition, the carbon dioxide emitted from the engines is used to promote plant growth in the greenhouses. The tour was fascinating and our visitors stated that this was their most interesting site visit during their time in California.

At the end of the day, we bid our visitors goodbye and wished them well with the environmental challenges they will face upon returning to Beijing.



(L to R) Mallory Ham, APCD; Liu Xin, BEPB; Mike Villegas, APCO; Zeng Jinghai, BEPB

At the Board



At its November 13, 2015 meeting, the APCB took the following actions:

- ✓ Public hearing regarding approval of the **2015 Ventura County Triennial Assessment and Plan Update**. For more information, contact **Chuck Thomas** at **645-1427**.
- ✓ Public hearing regarding the adoption of proposed revisions to **Rule 26.13, New Source Review – Prevention of Significant Deterioration**; and found the adoption of proposed amendments to Rule 26.13 are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). For more information, contact **Tyler Harris** at **645-1407**.
- ✓ Public hearing regarding the adoption of a resolution establishing fiscal year **2015-2016 Service Rates and Fees for the Air Pollution Control District**, effective November 10, 2015. For more information, contact **Nancy Mendoza** at **645-1402**.
- ✓ Received and filed the minutes of the **South Central Coast Basinwide Air Pollution Control Council meeting** of July 22, 2015. For more information, contact **Mike Villegas** at **645-1440**.



At its December 8, 2015 meeting, the APCB took the following actions:

- ✓ Approved and authorized the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) to execute an amended **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD) for Power Plant and Prevention of Significant Deterioration Air Quality Permitting Services**; authorized the APCO to manage and implement the amended MOU; and authorized the APCO to Make payments to the SJVUAPCD for permitting services occurring between

August 21, 2015 and the effective date of the amended MOU. For more information, contact **Mike Villegas** at **645-1440**.

- ✓ Approved and authorized for the Air Pollution Control Officer to sign an **Interagency Information Sharing Agreement with the California Air Resources Board and the California Energy Commission** to enable the agencies to share information in developing a plan to comply with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan. For more information, contact **Mike Villegas** at **645-1440**.
- ✓ Received and filed the **Unaudited Fiscal Year 2014-15 Year-End Financial Status Report**. For more information, contact **Nancy Mendoza** at **645-1402**.
- ✓ Approved the addition of one **Office Systems Coordinator III fixed-term position allocation** for a term not to exceed two years from the date of hire, effective December 8, 2015. For more information, contact **Nancy Mendoza** at **645-1402**.
- ✓ Received and filed information regarding the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District's application for **State subvention funds for continuing financial assistance**. For more information, contact **Nancy Mendoza** at **645-1402**.
- ✓ Received and filed correspondence from the Port of Hueneme, Oxnard Harbor District expressing **appreciation to the Air Pollution Control District office staff for securing TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) funding** for the Port of Hueneme's Intermodal Improvement Project. For more information, contact **Mike Villegas** at **645-1440**.



At its January 12, 2016 meeting, the APCB took the following actions:

- ✓ Nominated and **elected Chair John Zaragoza and Vice Chair Doug Tucker to the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District Board of Directors for 2016**. For more information, contact **Mike Villegas** at **645-1440**.
- ✓ Approved and **appointed Ventura County Air Pollution Control District Board Members Kathy Long and David Pollock to the Air Pollution Control Board Standing Committee**; and approved the **appointment of Ventura County Air Pollution Control Board member Mike Morgan as a representative to the South Central Coast Basinwide Air Pollution Control Council**. For more information, contact **Mike Villegas** at **645-1440**.
- ✓ Approved the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District **2016 Rule Development Calendar**. For more information, contact **Mike Villegas** at **645-1440**.

✓ Approved the **cancellation of the February 9, 2016 regular Air Pollution Control Board meeting**. For more information, contact **Mike Villegas** at **645-1440**.

✓ Received and filed correspondence from Matthew Rodriquez, Secretary for Environmental Protection for the California Environmental Protection Agency and from the California Air Resources Board, expressing **appreciation to the Air Pollution Control District office staff for hosting and coordinating a visit from representatives of the Beijing Environmental Protection Bureau**. For more information, contact **Mike Villegas** at **645-1440**.

Videos of archived Air Pollution Control Board meetings can be viewed at

<http://www.vcapcd.org/agendas.htm>