



AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

Imperial County Adopts its 2009 Particulate Matter Less than 10 Microns State Implementation Plan (PM₁₀ SIP) Fact Sheet

On August 11, 2009, the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (ICAPCD) Board of Directors unanimously adopted the Imperial County 2009 PM₁₀ SIP (Plan) fulfilling its obligations under the federal Clean Air Act (CAA). Imperial County developed the plan in accordance with federal guidance as provided by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and as such outlines some of the most important points of the plan below.

- The Plan contains all elements as required by the CAA.
- The Plan focused regulatory efforts on protecting public health and welfare.
- The Plan utilized Federal policies for exceptional events (e.g., desert dust storms) and international transport (e.g., pollution from Mexicali) known to impact the Imperial County.
- The Plan currently has a demonstrable reduction of 16 tons/day of PM₁₀. New transportation budgets help accomplish the reductions into the projected future years.

The 2009 PM₁₀ SIP is a community plan which was developed in a coordinated and cooperative stakeholder effort that began in March 2008. Stakeholders included health and community representatives, local agriculture, business, transportation, military representative and academia, as well as local, state and federal air agencies.

PLAN REFLECTS PROACTIVE ICAPCD DUST CONTROL EFFORTS

Unlike traditional SIP's, the community of Imperial County developed and adopted Regulation VIII fugitive dust rules years before any SIP development process. Essentially this allowed for necessary PM₁₀ reductions to become a reality for the demonstration of compliance with the health based PM₁₀ National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS).

- Regulation VIII fugitive dust rules were adopted in 2005 (almost 4 years before the Plan was adopted) and are based on Best Available Control Measures (BACM). Analysis of the Regulation VIII rules revealed that these rules are as stringent as or more stringent than other BACM rules implemented in other districts.
- Currently significant PM₁₀ dust sources (tilling and unpaved roads) are controlled with BACM as are non-significant sources such as construction sources, open area sources, paved roads, and other agricultural sources bringing additional PM₁₀ reductions.



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IMPROVEMENT OF AIR QUALITY (PM₁₀) The most significant evidence of the success of adopted programs and the Regulation VIII rules is the downward trend in the number of days above the federal health standard (NAAQS). For example, in 2000 there were 7 days identified above the NAAQS while in 2008 there were no days identified above the NAAQS. Specifically, for the years under review for the Plan, 2006 thru 2008:

- 5 days were identified as above the NAAQS but were scientifically analyzed and found to meet federal policy criteria allowing for exclusion and/or an international transport determination.
- Exclusion of the exceptional events and the international transport episodes, as allowed by the Clean Air Act, underwent extensive public and interagency review.

A COMMITMENT TO CONTINUED EFFORTS Because the Plan is a living document, the ICAPCD Board and staff are firmly committed to continued cooperative efforts which will focus on developing and implementing new programs and strategies which will further reduce PM₁₀ emissions and protect the public health and welfare.

- ICAPCD continues to work with USEPA, CARB and Mexicali agencies to reduce Mexicali pollution which impacts the Calexico area.
- The ICAPCD is actively working with stakeholders to improve its Smoke Management Plan.
- The ICAPCD and the CARB are committed to continuing work efforts with USEPA staff and with stakeholders throughout the local, state, and federal regulatory SIP review and adoption process.

You are invited to review the newly adopted PM₁₀ SIP and supporting documentation at www.imperialcounty.net under "air pollution" or you may directly contact the ICAPCD at (760) 482 4606.