

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 22, 2021 MEDIA CONTACTS: Bradley Whitaker, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9516 Kim White, (909) 396-2598, Cell: (909) 323-9479 press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for Portions of the South Coast Air Basin and Coachella Valley

Valid Monday March 22, 2021 through Tuesday March 23, 2021

This advisory is in effect through Tuesday Morning. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A PM10 Dust Advisory is in effect on Monday March 22, 2021 through the morning of Tuesday March 23, 2021 due to predicted high winds in the San Gorgonio Pass and the Coachella Valley.

On Monday morning, the National Weather Service (NWS) issued a Wind Advisory for portions of the eastern South Coast Air Basin and the Coachella Valley that is in effect from Monday evening at 7:00 PM through Tuesday morning at 6:00 AM. For information regarding the NWS warnings, please visit the NWS San Diego (<u>https://www.weather.gov/sgx/</u>) website.

Winds from the west with gusts up to 55 mph are expected in the mountains and deserts. Isolated gusts up to 65 mph are possible. Areas of blowing dust and sand in desert areas are predicted throughout this wind event, which may result in **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or higher Air Quality Index (AQI) levels throughout the San Gorgonio Pass area near Banning and the Eastern Coachella Valley. Localized areas of blowing ash are also possible in the San Bernardino Mountains near the 2020 wildfire burn scars.

Areas of direct impacts and poor air quality may include portions of:

• Riverside County: San Gorgonio Pass (Area 29), Coachella Valley (Area 30)



In areas directly impacted by windblown dust: Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed and avoiding vigorous physical activity.

- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: <u>www.aqmd.gov/advisory</u>
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to www.AirAlerts.org
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap
- For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp
- Air quality forecasts are available at http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas.

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for major portions of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <u>www.aqmd.gov</u>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

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