



CLEAN AIR FUND PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Clean Air Fund?

3M Corporation donated \$1.5 million in 1992 to be held in a trust fund, called the Clean Air Fund (CAF or Fund) and be used to provide funding assistance to projects which will improve the air quality in Ventura County. The CAF currently exists as an endowment, of which the gained interest, approximately \$25,000, is available for project funding each year on January 1st. The Clean Air Fund Advisory Committee (CAFAC), the members of which are appointed by the Ventura County Air Pollution Control Board (Board), review and recommend projects proposed to be funded by the CAF based on their ability to reduce air pollution in Ventura County. The Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (VCAPCD) helps administer the Fund by facilitating the CAFAC and processing project applications. The CAF is a great funding source for proof-of-concept projects to reduce emissions in Ventura County. Additional funds may be added to the CAF endowment at any time by any party.

What projects are eligible to be funded by the CAF?

The intent of the Fund is to provide financial support for projects which will reduce air pollution in Ventura County. The Fund may be spent on projects which will reduce emissions that contribute to Ventura County's nonattainment of the federal and state ozone standards and the state particulate matter standard (PM10), which includes emissions of reactive organic compounds, oxides of nitrogen, and particulate matter. In addition, the Fund may be spent on climate change projects that will:

1. Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG); or
2. Reduce carbon dioxide-equivalent emissions by chemical decomposition of high-global-warming-potential gaseous emissions, such as methane; or
3. Reduce the global warming impact of carbon emissions in the atmosphere via mitigation projects, including such projects as energy efficiency, carbon capture, and the use of low or zero carbon fuels.

How are projects selected?

Once the District determines a complete application package has been submitted, a CAFAC meeting is scheduled. Applicants are suggested to attend this meeting to present their project to the Committee and answer any questions they may have. The Committee will review these potential projects and make a recommendation to the Board who will then make a determination at the next available meeting. The whole process may take three to four months. A detailed project selection criteria can be found in the Bylaws: <http://www.vcapcd.org/pubs/Rules/CAFACom/CAFAC-Bylaws-and-Project-Selection-Criteria.pdf>.

How do I apply?

Clean Air Funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis. To find out if funds are available, you may contact Danny McQuillan at 805-645-1432 or danny@vcapcd.org. Example applications of past projects are available upon request. An application package shall include a written proposal which describes the project, location, and funding amount requested; a quote from the equipment vendor; and map of project area. Please submit all complete applications to danny@vcapcd.org for review and processing.

Application tips:

- To improve your chance of receiving a grant, request a smaller percentage of the project cost.
- To improve project appeal, if feasible, consider offering free services to the public, such as EV charging.
- Apply for grants to replace older equipment/engines and equipment/engines that are used many hours per year, since they emit the most pollution, and replace them with zero-emission equipment if feasible.

Still have questions?

Contact:

Danny McQuillan by email at danny@vcapcd.org or phone at (805) 645-1432.