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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Air Board Adopts New Blueprint for Clean Air

(Ventura, CA) Today, the Air Pollution Control Board adopted a new Air Quality Management Plan. These plans are developed periodically to comply with both the federal Clean Air Act and the California Clean Air Act. This plan outlines the necessary actions needed to achieve the federal 0.08 parts per million smog (ozone) standard throughout Ventura County. The plan contains numerous control measures that will be implemented to reduce smog forming emissions. It also contains a demonstration based on computer modeling that projects all areas of the County will achieve the standard by 2012. The plan accounts for both growth and the effect of future emission controls measure in making this projection.

The most significant challenge will be reducing smog levels in Simi Valley and Ojai, where we still exceed the smog standard. We have had tremendous improvement in air quality over the past two decades. The District projects these trends to continue; we will see decreased days over the standard, and clean areas of the County will continue to expand. According to Michael Villegas, Executive Officer, the projected attainment date of 2012 will be a challenge to meet. "If we can't demonstrate attainment throughout the County by 2012 we will revise the plan to make sure we keep on improving air quality to ensure all County citizens have healthful air to breathe."

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