



# DESERT BREEZE

VOLUME III ISSUE 3

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## DMV Grant Program

Since 1992, the District has allocated a substantial portion of its annually collected AB 2766 funds through its DMV Grant Program. The DMV Grant Program offers funding for qualified motor vehicle related emission reduction projects located within Eastern Kern County.



In an effort to streamline the process and make funds available to a larger number of applicants, the District has revised the 2016 DMV Grant program into the following three funding tiers:

### Tier I, Incentive for Purchase of Low-Emitting Vehicle

The District will provide the following financial incentives for purchase of a new low-emitting vehicle:

- \$2,000 for purchase of an Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV);
- \$3,000 for purchase of a Partial Zero Emission Vehicle (PZEV);
- \$5,000 for purchase of a Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV).

### Tier II, Incentive for Infrastructure and Public Education

The District will provide up to \$50,000 for projects that encourages the use and development of electric and alternative fuel vehicles.



Projects can include:

- Installation of Level II or Level III Public EV charging station;
- Installation of Public CNG refilling station;
- Public Education course designed to deliver focused messages that instill behavioral changes and create lifelong habits geared toward reducing emissions.

### Tier III, Road Improvement

The District will provide up to \$50,000 for projects that reduce fugitive dust (PM10) emissions that result from vehicle activity on public roads. Road Improvement projects include:

- Paving dirt public access roads;
- Application of long-term dust palliative to dirt public access road.



Project application submission begins October 30, 2015 and closes 5pm February 26, 2016. District staff reviews all applications submitted by the deadline to determine eligibility. Projects will be selected for funding in a public meeting held in April 2016.

In late October 2015, DMV Grant Program guidelines and project applications will be available on the District's website: [www.kernair.org](http://www.kernair.org) under the Grants/DMV Grants tab. Additionally, hard copies will also be available at the District's Administrative office located at 2700 "M" Street, Suite 302, Bakersfield, CA 93301. This program is open to the public and everyone is welcome to apply.

## ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR RENOVATIONS

The District has revised the Notification Policy for regulated facility renovation projects: primarily commercial, industrial, and large scale residential facilities (facilities with more than 4 units under one roof or more than one home on a property). Single family dwellings that are not part of a larger residential facility are exempt from this policy. **Your personal home is exempt.**



Asbestos is a substance that is, irrefutably, toxic to humans. To mention “there may be asbestos” at a particular site; evokes a sense of uneasiness. As a result, asbestos is heavily regulated by the EPA (Asbestos NESHAP

Regulations), Cal/OSHA, and ultimately the District. A building/structure built prior to 1979 is likely to contain asbestos construction materials. When the asbestos containing material (ACM) is intact and not disturbed, there is no risk to public health. However, renovation or demolition of a structure containing ACM can present a risk to the public. The District has a responsibility to ensure any disturbance of ACM is done in a safe and prudent manner. The owner/operator of a regulated facility must notify the District prior to the start of all renovation projects. The notice must include an asbestos survey performed by a Certified Asbestos Consultant (CAC). Performing the work in accordance with the EPA (asbestos NESHAP Regulations) helps ensure that areas in use during the renovation are not contaminated, and that areas under renovation, when work is complete, are also free of contamination.

This policy was created because several owners/operators of commercial, industrial, and large scale residential properties were completing renovations without properly notifying the District. Additionally, no surveys were performed to detect or quantify asbestos at the project site. This policy is designed to ensure an asbestos survey has been performed by a CAC prior to a renovation/demolition project and survey results are properly reported to the District. Each owner/operator/contractor is subject to a substantial fine if a proper asbestos survey is not completed prior to the renovation/demolition of a regulated facility.



Important items to remember:

- Submit an asbestos survey to the District prior to renovation/demolition.
- What are the results of the asbestos survey?
- If no asbestos is present, or the amount of ACM is less than 160 square feet, 260 linear feet or 35 cubic feet a courtesy notification is required.
- Call the District if you have any questions.
- Visit the District website at [www.kernair.org](http://www.kernair.org) regarding notification requirements for your renovation/demolition project.

### Rule Development

The Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District (District) regularly review our Rules and Regulations for conformity with State and Federal air quality requirements. Additionally, the District made a commitment to annually review District Rule 402.2 (Agricultural Operations – Adopted 3/12/2015).

Rule 402.2 was developed to reduce PM<sub>10</sub> (particulate matter 10 micrometers in diameter or less) emissions generated by agricultural operations. A crucial part of Rule 402.2 are CMP (Conservation Management Practices). CMP are activities or procedures that prevent, reduce, or mitigate PM<sub>10</sub> emissions associated with an agricultural operation. A few of CMP currently in Rule 402.2 are:

1. Cover Crops, (including Native or volunteer vegetation) that maintain a minimum of 60 percent ground cover, as determined by the Line Transect Test Method.
2. Hand Harvesting, harvesting a crop by hand to reduce soil disturbance from machinery passes.
3. Addition of Gravel, placing a layer of gravel at least 3 inches in depth to minimize dust generated from vehicle movement and to dislodge any excess debris which can become entrained in vehicle tires.

The CMP are listed within Rule 402.2; therefore, Rule 402.2 will have to be modified to include any revised or new CMP. Source of CMP can be from the public, agricultural facilities, and District Staff. District Staff has no new or revised technologies to add to the current CMP. Therefore, District Staff is seeking new and revised CMP, from the public and agricul-

*(Continued on page 3)*

## POLLUTANT OF THE QUARTER: Benzene

Benzene is a colorless, flammable liquid with a sweet odor. Because benzene is highly volatile, it evaporates into the air very quickly. Additionally, benzene is one of the original toxic air pollutants listed in the Clean Air Act amendments of 1990. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) included benzene because human exposure to benzene is associated with a range of acute and long-term adverse health effects and diseases, including cancer and aplastic anemia. Additionally, benzene is a Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) which contributes to ground-level ozone formation in our atmosphere. Therefore, excess emission of benzene negatively affects our health and our environment.

Benzene is commonly found in gasoline, industrial solvents, and emissions from burning coal and oil. California has some of the most serious air quality problems in the nation because of population and vehicle emissions. California enacted reformulated gasoline regulations beginning in 1992; however, limiting the benzene content in gasoline began with Phase 2 Reformulated Gasoline (CaRFG2) enacted in 1996;

limiting benzene content to 1.00 percent by volume {%(v)}. Starting December 31, 2003, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) required all gasoline produced or sold in California meet the Phase 3 California Reformulated Gasoline standards (CaRFG3). CaRFG3 limits the average benzene content of gasoline from 1.00%(v) to 0.80%(v). In 2012 CaRFG3 was updated to require benzene in gasoline to be reduced to 0.70%(v). In 2007, EPA adopted Rule 72 (Federal Register {FR} 8428 – Control of Hazardous Air Pollutants from Mobile Sources) to reduce benzene content from gasoline. However, as stated in Section II.B of FR 8428, the regulation does not apply to gasoline produced or sold in California because of CaRFG3. More information regarding CaRFG3 can be found at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/fuels/gasoline/carfg3/carfg3.htm>.

Another ARB goal is to minimize benzene emissions released directly from

gasoline dispensing facilities (GDF). Almost all GDF in California are required to install appropriate Enhanced Vapor Recovery (EVR) systems according to ARB's Vapor Recovery - Executive Orders. Installing EVR systems reduce the amount of benzene from entering the atmosphere by 95%.

While the federal and state concentrates on controlling and reducing benzene emissions, Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District (District) takes enforcement actions on GDF located in our District. Our air quality specialists visit most GDF yearly to inspect and check the following: their EVR systems, their vapor test results, their hanging hardware to check for any leaks, and etc. At the end of the day, the District, ARB and EPA are all promoting and protecting public health, welfare, and the environment by reducing air pollutants effectively and efficiently.



### Rule Development *Continued from page 2)*

tural facilities, to be added to Rule 402.2. If the District does not receive any official comments to revise Rule 402.2 by November 1, 2015; Rule 402.2 will remain unchanged.

District Staff will review other rules in the upcoming year. In accordance with Section 40923 of the California Health and Safety Code, on or about January 1, 2016, the District will give notice of regulatory control measures that will be considered for amendment or adoption during calendar year 2016. For more information feel free to visit our website at: <http://www.kern.air.org>.

### The Benefits of Carpooling

With the start of each school year there are more cars on the road, maybe carpooling will be a good option for you and your family. Participating in a carpool to school or work can have multiple benefits.

#### **Save Money**

Sharing rides can save you money on gas when you divide gasoline cost amongst carpool passengers. Carpooling can also help save on cost of vehicle repairs and maintenance if you rotate vehicles between members in your carpool group.

#### **Less Stress**

Participating in a carpool group can decrease the amount of time you are driving per week, and can be less stressful than commuting on your own.

#### **Convenience**

Whatever your needs are, you can look for people who need that same schedule or who can add you to their drive route on the days you need a ride.

#### **Helps the Environment**

Carpooling cuts down on the number of cars and vehicles on the road. Fewer cars means there is less carbon and other gasses and pollution released into the air. This protects the environment by keeping the air, water, and land cleaner.



**Board of Directors**

- Ed Grimes, Chair (Councilman, Tehachapi)
- Rick Warren, Vice Chair (Councilman, California City)
- Mick Gleason (KC 1st District Supervisor)
- Zack Scrivner (KC 2st District Supervisor)
- Peggy Breeden (Mayor, Ridgecrest)

Board of Directors usually meet once every two months starting in January at various locations.

**Air Pollution Control Officer**

Glen E. Stephens, P.E.

**Hearing Board Members**

- Bill Deaver
- Herb Roraback
- Doris Lora
- Dr. Wallace Kleck
- James Bell



For news updates and other information, please visit the Eastern Kern APCD website at [www.kernair.org](http://www.kernair.org)

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