



# SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY PM2.5 ATTAINMENT PLAN

## What is PM2.5?

PM2.5 – particulate matter that 2.5 microns or smaller - are microscopic particles that build up in the atmosphere. When inhaled, PM2.5 can trigger asthma attacks, heart attacks, stroke, and premature death and contribute to heart and lung diseases. The San Joaquin Valley is the most polluted air basin in the nation for PM2.5.



## What are the sources?

Half of the San Joaquin Valley's particle pollution problem occurs when emissions from dairy cattle and fertilizers combine with emissions from trucks and tractors. Roughly 40% comes from burning: residential burning (fireplaces), agricultural burning, commercial cooking, and the combustion of fuel in car and truck engines, large oil-and-gas steam generators, industrial incinerators, and other sources. Another 10% is dust.



## What is being done about it?

The federal Clean Air Act sets health-based standards for PM2.5 pollution, and the local San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District and the state California Air Resources Board are charged with creating a plan to meet these standards. The Valley is decades late in meeting some of these standards, and years late in adopting a plan.





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## What are strengths of the plan?

The Plan strengthens rules on residential burning, commercial cooking, sources of dust, and trucks and tractors. It also incentivizes the turnover of dirty equipment for newer, cleaner equipment.



## What are the weaknesses?

The Plan's success relies on \$5 billion in largely unfunded incentives. The Plan also leaves out major sources of pollution, such as PM<sub>2.5</sub> from agricultural burning and oil and gas facilities, as well as emissions from dairies and fertilizers.

## What more can be done?



The California Air Resources Board is coming to Fresno on Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, to review the Plan. They can exercise more oversight over the Plan – such as direct their staff to look for pollution reduction opportunities from agricultural burning, oil and gas and dairies – but they will only if there is public pressure to do so.

## What can you do?

Provide testimony at the meeting! Explaining how you or a loved one is impacted by air pollution could push the state to do more. You'll have three minutes to speak. Meeting starts at 9am at The Grand 1401, located at 1401 Fulton St, 10th Floor Ballroom in Fresno.