FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 29, 2023

MEDIA CONTACT:

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Kim White, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9479

press@aqmd.gov

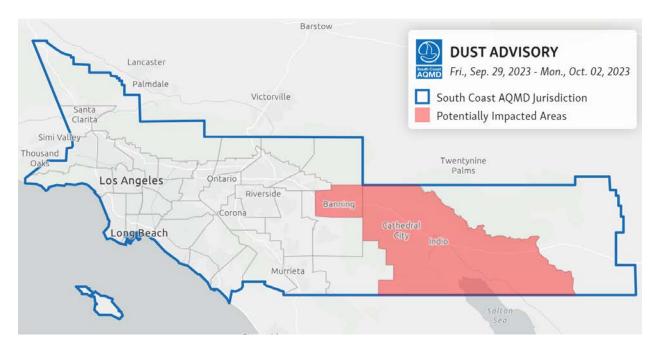
South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley

Valid through 6:00 a.m., Monday, Oct. 2, 2023

Current conditions

• Wind gusts up to 18 mph in Palm Springs and Mecca since Thursday evening have caused blowing dust and resulted in **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** AQI levels.

To view current air quality in your neighborhood, download the <u>South Coast AQMD app</u> or visit <u>www.aqmd.gov/AQImap</u>.



Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

- PM10 Dust Advisory is in effect through 6 a.m. Monday due to gusty winds in the Coachella Valley
- High winds can lift dust and soil and lead to poor air quality
- Blowing dust may result in Air Quality Index (AQI) levels that are **Unhealthy** or worse
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions
- The National Weather Service (NWS) office in San Diego has issued a Wind Advisory for the Coachella Valley. For more information on the NWS advisory, please visit https://www.weather.gov/sgx
- Recent dust events in the Coachella Valley have been difficult to predict. The public is encouraged to pay close attention to the current conditions reported on the <u>South Coast AQMD</u> <u>App</u> and on <u>www.aqmd.gov/aqimap</u>

If you are in an area impacted by windblown dust or ash:

- Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter.
- Avoid vigorous physical activity.
- Run your air conditioning and/or an air purifier. If possible, do **not** use swamp coolers or whole house fans that bring in outside air.
- Help minimize dust pollution by stabilizing loose soils and slowing down if driving on dirt roads.
- For more information, see the <u>EPA Guide for Particle Pollution</u> (PDF).

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter) and Instagram.