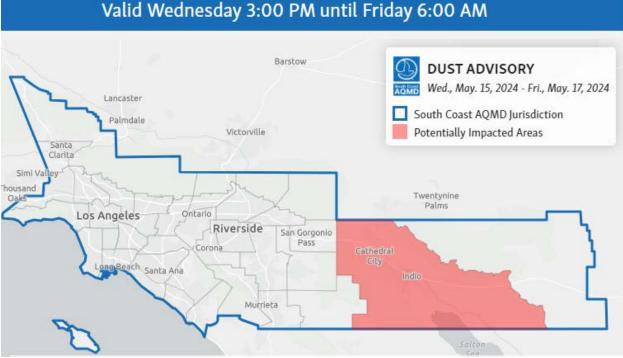


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 15, 2024 **MEDIA CONTACT:** Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Kim White (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9479 press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory for the Coachella Valley

Valid until Friday 6:00 a.m.



Valid Wednesday 3:00 PM until Friday 6:00 AM

Current Conditions

AQI values in the Coachella Valley have reached Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups due to • windblown dust (PM10)

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

Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

- Windblown dust is expected to cause the AQI levels to reach **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or higher through Friday morning
- AQI levels will vary over time and by location depending on wind speed and direction

Detailed Forecast

Wednesday afternoon and overnight	AQI levels of Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or higher are expected with the highest levels expected after 6 p.m.
Thursday	Windblown dust is expected to subside for the morning hours and gradually increase in the afternoon.
Thursday night to Friday morning	Windblown dust is expected to again cause AQI levels of Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or higher during the overnight Thursday into early Friday morning

South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

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 EPA Guide for Particle Pollution (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 <u>www.aqmd.gov</u>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u> (formerly known as Twitter) and <u>Instagram</u>.