

Cleaning the air
that we breathe...™



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CARB Commits to Greater Emission Reductions



Following an all-day public hearing held October 23, 2003, California Air Resources Board (CARB) members unanimously approved a strengthened state and federal portion of the 2003 Air Quality Management Plan for the South Coast region.

Held in Diamond Bar, the lively hearing was attended by more than 400 interested residents, elected officials, business representatives, and school students, many of whom testified in favor of a greater state commitment toward emission reductions.

After extensive open deliberation about the tradeoffs of pushing beyond their initially proposed strategy, CARB voted

to accept a motion by Board Member and AQMD Chairman Dr. William Burke, increasing short-range control targets for on- and off-road mobile sources and consumer products that lie beyond local jurisdiction.

"We are extremely grateful to everyone who attended and expressed their support for a strong clean air strategy, one that balances our need for healthful air and a healthy economic climate," said Barry Wallerstein, AQMD executive officer. "CARB listened, rose to the occasion, and is helping Southern California achieve our mutual clean air goals."

For more information, contact Elaine Chang, at 909/396-3186.



First in the Nation

AQMD Adopts Plan to Reduce Cumulative Air Pollution Impacts

In a major expansion of its groundbreaking environmental justice program, AQMD's Governing Board adopted the nation's first 25-point strategy this fall for reducing the cumulative impacts of air pollution in the region.

"Many residents are concerned about the combined impact of air pollution in their communities from a number of individual sources, from business and industry to vehicle traffic, that comply with all air pollution regulations," said Barry Wallerstein, AQMD's executive officer.

"This program will seek to reduce toxic air pollution including diesel soot, particulate pollution and nuisance odors to improve public health for all Southern Californians."

The cumulative impacts strategy grew out of an expansion to AQMD's Environmental Justice program adopted in September 2002.

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Localized Significance Thresholds Adopted

To better protect public health, particularly in areas with higher air pollution, AQMD's Board this fall adopted a detailed set of voluntary guidelines to assist local governments in analyzing potential local air quality impacts from development projects.

The Localized Significance Threshold Methodology is one of 23 items in AQMD's Environmental Justice program enhancements adopted in September 2002.

The methodology includes easily read look-up tables to help local governments determine whether projects under five acres, such as strip malls and small residential projects, will significantly affect local air quality.

The methodology is meant as an optional enhancement to projects analyzed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). It will be phased in during a pilot program over the next nine months. For more information, contact Steve Smith at (909) 396-3054.

AQMD Adopts Environmental Justice Workplan

At its September meeting, the AQMD Governing Board approved its Environmental Justice workplan for 2003-04. The ten enhancements identified in the workplan build upon the AQMD's experience and the needs of the community. This workplan serves as the basis for continued outreach and problem-solving activities concerning future environmental justice issues.

Some key elements of the 2003-04 workplan are:

- **Launch of MATES III in 2004.** The landmark Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES II) conducted in 1998-99 identified diesel exhaust as a major contributor to risks from air toxics. MATES III will update and provide new information on air toxic levels and exposures as a basis to evaluate future cumulative impacts from air pollutants.
- **Review and update of the District's Air Toxics Control Plan.**
- **Community outreach meetings to explain the Hearing Board process.**
- **Continuation of the "Neighborhood Environmental Justice Council" program.**

The workplan was adopted after a series of community forums and environmental justice training workshops. For more information, contact Pom Pom Ganguli at (909) 396-3185.

Environmental Justice CORNER



Pico Rivera, AQMD's First Neighborhood Environmental Justice Council

What started out early this year as a typical AQMD town hall meeting in the City of Pico Rivera turned into a perfect opportunity to establish a short-term Neighborhood Environmental Justice Council (NEJC) to address the significant concerns residents raised about their air quality.

"As part of our Environmental Justice Workplan for 2002-03, the Board directed staff to develop a pilot Neighborhood Environmental Justice Council program," said Oscar Abarca, AQMD's assistant deputy executive officer of Public Affairs. "NEJCs are designed to bring the community together, working with the AQMD, to address and help resolve air quality problems that impact their quality of life."

The 25-member Council – made up of community members, business owners and representatives from city, county and state government – met three times following the February town hall meeting. They then held a follow-up town hall meeting in June.

During the NEJC meetings, members discussed AQMD's permitting and compliance procedures, the City's code enforcement and land use procedures, and air quality issues specific to the three key problems: emissions from idling trains; odors emitted from a specific facility; and permitting and compliance questions pertaining to an auto body repair center. The Council identified possible solutions and courses of action needed to address each problem. The members of the NEJC were also empowered with tools they can use in the future, if similar problems occur.

Throughout the process, the Council served as a vehicle for on-going communication and feedback among the residents, the City, businesses and the AQMD to reduce the possibility of future air quality problems.

As part of AQMD's 2003-04 Environmental Justice Workplan, the AQMD will consider new locations for other Neighborhood Environmental Justice Councils. For more information, contact Lourdes Cordova Martinez at (909) 396-3214.

Wildfires Spark Unhealthy Air Quality

In late October, the Southland was ravaged by a series of wildfires that were the worst in Southern California history. For several days, the region was enveloped in unhealthy levels of particulate air pollution.

"Air quality in some areas has been severely impacted from Southern California's firestorms," said William A. Burke, Ed.D., AQMD Governing Board Chairman at a press event at Beckford Avenue Elementary School in Northridge on October 29.

AQMD extensively monitored the air quality impacts from the wildfires and created the following tools for informing the public, schools and impacted communities on actions they should take to minimize their exposure:

- Daily Smoke Advisories and Air Quality Updates were sent to all public school superintendents advising them to limit children's outdoor activities due to the enormous extent of smoke and ash from the wildfires. In addition, each school district was contacted to ensure that the daily Smoke Advisories were being received and disseminated to their respective schools.
- "Safety Tips" handouts were created in English and Spanish to provide specific health advisory actions for children, seniors and the general public. This information was distributed to emergency centers, schools and legislative offices for communities most severely impacted by the wildfires.
- A Smoke Advisory page was created for the AQMD website, which contains up-to-date information on the Air Quality Index for fine particles, health impacts of smoke, and protective measures to take.

Public Affairs staff responded to an overwhelming number of phone calls from the public. The staff provided detailed responses and guidance on specific air quality inquiries. AQMD Call Center fielded more calls in the week of the fire than it normally received during a typical month. AQMD also committed weekend staffing to directly respond to any calls.

State Legislative Wrap-up

The 2003 Legislative session proved significant for the environment, addressing issues such as New Source Review, particulate matter, agricultural source pollution, and cleaner dry cleaning technologies. Important legislation signed into law by Governor Davis includes:

SB 288 (Sher), known as the Protect California Air Act of 2003, will allow California to retain its existing New Source Review (NSR) standards as they were before the Bush administration revamped the federal NSR program in December, 2002. The more stringent standards are essential to California's goal to attain and maintain federal air quality standards and continue to control emission reductions from industrial sources, including power plants and refineries.

SB 656, (Sher), that will require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to adopt by January 1, 2005 all readily available, feasible and cost-effective control measures that can be implemented at

the state and local level to reduce emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 from new and existing stationary, mobile and area sources.

SB 700 (Florez), which ends the agriculture industry's exemption from air pollution permits. Passage of the bill was critical and will protect California from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sanctions that may have resulted in the loss of highway funds and increased fees for some businesses.

AB 998 (Lowenthal), which places a fee on each gallon of perchloroethylene manufactured or imported into California to fund (1) a grant program to provide incentives to dry cleaners to switch to more environmentally-friendly dry cleaning technologies certified as such by CARB and (2) a demonstration program to showcase non-toxic and non-smog forming dry cleaning technologies in the state. *For more information, contact Jim Clouet at (909) 396-3208.*

AQMD's Clean Air Teams Join ALA Walk-a-Thon

The AQMD went a step beyond sponsoring the American Lung Association's "Blow the Whistle on Asthma" walk-a-thon. On Sunday, October 5, two separate "Clean Air Teams" represented the agency during the 5k walks one held in Orange and the other in Riverside counties. Together the Teams, made up of AQMD staff, family members and friends, raised \$2,000 to help the two ALA Chapters help those who suffer with asthma. AQMD was a prominent sponsor of both walk-a-thons that were held as part of the ALA's 5th Annual fundraising event. *For more information on next year's events and other ALA programs, call Jamie Anderson of the Orange County ALA at (714) 835-5864 or Diana Haberkorn of the Inland Empire Chapter at (909) 884-5864.*



AQMD Co-Sponsors Demo Of Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vans

AQMD is partnering with manufacturer DaimlerChrysler, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), and Southern California Edison (SCE) to develop, demonstrate, and evaluate two vehicle prototypes of a gasoline-fueled plug-in hybrid electric van. Plug-in hybrid vehicles can be either plugged into power outlets or fueled with gasoline for vehicle propulsion.

Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) are promising in the near term because they can be optimized to combine the main advantages of both electric and gasoline vehicles. PHEVs can provide the fuel savings and emission reduction benefits of battery-powered electric vehicles, along with the longer range of a gasoline engine.

Electric vehicles, hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs), and fuel cell vehicles can share similar electric drive components that must be optimized for each design. Many fuel cell vehicles are currently designed like no-plug hybrids. Design progress toward a plug-in hybrid fuel cell vehicle could save costs by using a smaller fuel cell and enabling faster introduction of this zero-emission technology.

The three-year, \$1.5 million total project includes AQMD co-funding of \$475,000 approved by the Governing Board. The van demonstration program will use a DaimlerChrysler Sprinter van platform, which is a widely sold European commercial model with multiple applications including panel van, flatbed truck, or para-transit vehicle.

The prototype vans will serve as fully-functional zero-emission vehicles for delivery or commute-type trips, and fully-functional engine-dominant HEVs for long distance trips.

Many PHEV designs can recharge overnight using a standard 120V outlet. In this project's design of a large van, standard fast charging will be used to serve fleet needs.

After production in Germany, the van will be tested there and also baseline-performance tested at the SCE Vehicle Test Center. Testing in regular fleet service will then be conducted at AQMD and SCE.

For more information, call Lisa Mirisola at (909) 396-2638



Nine Clean Air Innovators Honored at AQMD's 15th Annual Clean Air Awards Ceremony

15th
Annual
Clean Air Awards

At the 2003 Clean Air Awards, AQMD recognized the outstanding achievements of the individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions toward improving the air we breathe here in Southern California. This year's winners are:

Leadership in Government



Senator Byron Sher has authored many landmark laws during his 23 years in the state Legislature, including the California Clean Air Act. As Chairman of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, he continues his advocacy for a cleaner environment. He recently authored the Protect California Air Act of 2003 (SB 288) which seeks

to maintain a strong air pollution program, known as New Source Review, in California. He also authored SB 656 to accelerate the reduction of particulate matter emissions from new and existing stationary, mobile and area sources. Senator Sher will be leaving the Legislature in 2004 as a result of term limits.



Henry W. ("Hank") Wedaa has worked tirelessly in Southern California's war against smog during his 40 years of service, both as a member of the Yorba Linda City Council and as a former AQMD Governing Board member. On AQMD's Board he strongly advocated reducing vehicle emissions to attain

federal clean air standards for the region. His work to improve air quality continues today. Wedaa is president of Valley Environmental Associates, which specializes in environmental studies, air quality issues, airport issues, intergovernmental relations, and new technology business activities. A strong proponent for alternative fuels, Wedaa is chairman of the North American Clean Air Alliance for Zero Emission Vehicles, co-founder of Fuel Cells for Transportation, and the current director of Hydrogen 2000, a non-profit corporation dedicated to sharing information on and encouraging use of hydrogen fuel.

Innovative Transportation Projects



UCLA Transportation Service has one of the nation's largest vanpool programs, including a state-of-the-art parking management system, campus traffic monitoring system, and on-site compressed natural gas-fueling station. The program has reduced more than 200,000 pounds of air pollution annually. As a past recipient of two Clean Air Awards, UCLA received the award this year for its innovative Vehicle Donation Program Partnership with Global Electric Motorcars (GEM), a subsidiary of Daimler Chrysler. The partnership, which services the entire University of California system, helps improve air quality through innovative technology. The program currently has a total of 258 vehicles.



Model Community Achievement

The City of Burbank has an exceptional comprehensive strategy that promotes good air quality and conservation in the community. Elements of the strategy include:

- **Enhanced Public Transportation** – The City has two Metrolink stations and low-emission transportation connecting commuters to the commuter train.
- **Recycling Efforts** – The City's recycling programs have successfully accomplished a diversion rate of 57 percent and handles up to 6,500 tons of recyclables a month. Among its services the City offers a mercury thermometer exchange, recycling used sneakers to make new athletic surfaces, a used motor oil drop off, and free compost and worm bins.
- **Conservation Programs** – The Burbank Water and Power Department's Energy Conservation Division has distributed compact fluorescent light bulbs to residents, offers Ultra-low Flow Flush Toilet and Energy Star Appliances rebate programs, and has a shade tree program. The City also offers grant funding up to \$10,000 to dry cleaners in Burbank that convert from perchlorethylene cleaning processes to non-toxic alternatives.
- **Environmentally Sensitive Zoning:** A standard in the City's zoning code prohibits any automotive repair or related activity from operating within 150 feet of a residential neighborhood. The provision helps mitigate air pollution impacts in residential neighborhoods from auto repair shops.



5th Annual Air Awards

Robert Zweig – Memorial Award



John M. Peters, M.D.

As director of the Southern California Environmental Health Science Center at the USC School of Medicine, John M. Peters, M.D., has conducted over the past decade one of the nation's leading

long-term studies on air pollution and its impacts on children's health. The results have influenced major air pollution control policy decisions to safeguard children's health as well as other residents living in impacted communities.

Dr. Peters is a strong advocate and a noted expert on air pollution's impacts on children's health. He has written over 150 publications, many studying the various problems and relationships between health and environmental exposures; and has spoken to many medical groups and public audiences on the subject. His groundbreaking research will continue to reveal more about the impact of air pollution on human health.

The Robert M. Zweig, M.D. Memorial Award is presented in honor of the Riverside physician who dedicated himself to eradicating smog and pursuing clean air alternatives to improve air quality. As the second recipient of this award, Dr. Peters' genuine commitment to the medical concerns related to poor air quality continues to build on the tradition of excellence and the legacy established by Dr. Zweig.



Promotion of Good Environmental Stewardship

Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) and the **Metal Finishing Association of Southern California (MFASC)** were the two major organizations involved in the groundbreaking negotiated rulemaking of two of AQMD's toughest measures to significantly reduce toxic emissions from the region's metal plating facilities.

In May 2003, the AQMD adopted Amended Rule 1469 – Hexavalent Chromium Emissions from Chrome Plating and Chromic Acid Anodizing Operations, and Rule 1426 – Emissions from Metal Finishing Operations. The constructive participation of MFASC and CBE was instrumental in crafting rules that protect public health, while providing flexibility to industry.

CBE and MFASC, which represented markedly different interests, worked cooperatively to develop workable rules that included more stringent requirements for facilities located near sensitive receptors such as residences, schools, and child care centers.

CBE is an environmental health and justice non-profit organization that promotes clean air and water and the development of toxin-free communities.

The Metal Finishing Association of Southern California is a 200-member local affiliate of the non-profit National Association of Metal Finishers. The local group represents metal finishing firms in the greater Los Angeles and Orange County areas and was organized to help develop and perpetuate the highest standards for metal finishing.



AQMD Advisor



Advancement of Air Pollution Technology



Anderson Lithograph

Anderson Lithograph is a small commercial printing business in Commerce that has been in business for over 50 years. The company installed an innovative cogeneration system to generate electricity and steam for use in the plant and to control emis-

sions from their printing presses. The system includes a permanent enclosure around their printing operations to capture smog-forming volatile organic compound (VOC) and particulate emissions from their printing presses. The innovative process prevents VOC emissions from escaping the press room into personnel and material handling areas of the plant. Ventilation air containing the VOC from the press area is then mixed with ambient air and used in the cogeneration system's natural gas-fired turbine. The gas turbine burns and destroys up to 98.9 percent of the VOC emissions. This Anderson Lithograph system is an outstanding example of controlling fugitive VOC emissions and using the available energy in a cogeneration system.



Public Education on Air Quality Issues



For the past seven years, the American Lung Association of Los Angeles County has delivered comprehensive programs on air quality and asthma issues reaching approximately 7,500 school children with asthma and over 30,000 parents and caregivers of children with asthma and school personnel. Through its "Whole

World of Care" approach, the association has implemented four programs focused on protecting children's lung health. The programs include:

- Healthy Homes for Little Lungs, designed to help families with young asthmatics identify and reduce environmental health risks in the home utilizing an assessment tool demonstrated during home visits.
- Clinic-based environmental workshops for primary-care providers to improve their level of asthma management education and information.
- School-based asthma management and prevention programs.
- Community-based programs including a residential summer camp for children with asthma.



The following proposed and amended rules and regulations are tentatively scheduled for hearing at upcoming Governing Board meetings. To verify whether scheduling changes have occurred, check the Rule and Control Measure item on the Governing Board meeting agenda or call the Clerk of the Board's Office at (909) 396-2500.

January 2004



Filing Requirements for Specific Emission Sources Not Requiring a Written Permit Pursuant to Regulation II (Rule 222) The proposed amendments will add facilities subject to the proposed changes in Rule 1148.1 (see below). For more information, call Larry Bowen at (909) 396-2575.



Oil Field Production Wells (Rule 1148.1) This proposed rule will reduce VOC emissions from equipment used in oil and gas production operations that is not regulated by other source specific rules. For more information, call Larry Bowen at (909) 396-2575.



On-Road Motor Vehicle Mitigation Options (Rule 2202) The proposed amendments will modify the rule to update the emission factors using the most current emission reduction methodologies for use in emission reduction calculations and allow additional emission reduction through inter-pollutant credits. Proposed amendments also include language to clarify program options, clarification of definitions and deletion of outdated language. For more information, call Carol Gomez (909) 396-3264.

AQMD Adopts Plan...

← continued from page 1

Using existing databases, including the agency's landmark Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study II completed in 2000, the strategy will focus on reducing air pollution, cancer risk and nuisance odors throughout the Los Angeles Basin.

Some of the strategies will focus on the most impacted areas, defined as 100 individual square kilometers with the highest cancer risk from mobile sources -- including cars, trucks, trains, ships and airplanes -- and the 100 individual square kilometers with the highest cancer risk from businesses and industries. One kilometer equals 0.62 miles.

"In many cases, areas with the highest cancer risk are low-income communities and communities of color," Wallerstein said.

Of the 25 strategies, 10 are identified for development and implementation in the next three years, including:

- More stringent requirements for cancer risk limits from toxic emissions from new facilities near schools, and possibly daycare centers, hospitals and nursing homes.
 - Clean fleet regulations for private fleets of diesel-powered trucks and other vehicles.
 - An enhanced compliance program requiring minimum penalties and inspections for repeat emission violations.
 - A rule for one or two industries aimed at reducing nuisance odors.
- In addition, the plan contains 15 other strategies for reducing emissions from truck and train idling, marine and airport operations, and other sources.

The Board also directed staff to work more closely with the small business community and state, local and federal officials to coordinate small business assistance and outreach efforts.

*By Internationally Renowned
Neurosurgeon and AQMD Foundation*

Possible Brain Cancer-Air Pollution Link To Be Studied

The Brain Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation, created and funded by AQMD, has launched a research project to explore a possible link between brain cancer and air pollution.

The study will be led by Keith Black, M.D., an internationally renowned neurosurgeon and director of the Cedars-Sinai Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute and Division of Neurosurgery in Los Angeles. The Brain Tumor foundation recently awarded \$559,250 to the research project, with funding from AQMD.

The Cedars-Sinai investigation will examine biochemical and pathological changes in brain tissue of laboratory animals exposed to selected toxic air pollutants. These changes will be compared to those in human brain tumor tissue to determine whether air pollution causes changes in tissue associated with the formation of brain cancer.

Factors that led to the study include:

- Research documenting that certain toxic air pollutants are known to cause cancer in humans.
- An American Lung Association study that linked particulate pollution to lung cancer.
- At least one investigation that found a dramatic increase of brain cancer rates in a metropolitan area, with a possible link to air pollution.

Some estimates suggest that brain cancers and other tumors of children's nervous systems rose by more than 25 percent between 1973 and 1996, according to Black.

"Brain cancer is the most common cause of cancer death in young people," he said.

In January 2003, AQMD Governing Board Chairman William A. Burke proposed the creation of a Brain Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation. The following month, AQMD's Board approved the establishment of the non-profit foundation.

AQMD's Board committed 10 percent of the agency's air pollution penalty revenues from fiscal year 2002-03 -- about \$722,500 -- to fund the foundation for one year. Of that amount, \$559,250 will underwrite the research project led by Black. For more information, contact Jean Ospital at (909) 396-2582.





Chris Marlia

AQMD Assistant Deputy Executive Officer of Information Management J. Christopher (Chris) Marlia compares the job of cleaning the air to life growing up on his family's farm, "While the work seemed never ending, you always ended the day feeling like your contribution made a difference." This strong work ethic has served Chris well, placing him in a position of responsibility of AQMD's life blood: the agency's data and computer information infrastructure.

Born in San Diego as one of thirteen children and raised on a small farm in Eagle Point, Oregon, Chris became accustomed to hard work at an early age. Chris laughs and says, "Even with thirteen kids, I always had my fair share of work to do." Chris' father moved the family from San Diego to the Oregon farm in 1959, when he decided that Southern California was getting too crowded. For \$5,000, he purchased a 20-acre farm that lacked many of the amenities Chris' family had enjoyed in their Southland home. Chris recalled, "We didn't get electricity until 1961."

Chris returned to Southern California in 1980 with bachelor's and master's degrees in Atmospheric Sciences with concentrations in air pollution, as well as a bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Oregon State University. This region provided the perfect opportunity to gain experience and knowledge about the air pollution field.

After working for three years as a senior air quality scientist with a consulting firm specializing in air pollution, Chris joined the AQMD in 1983 as an air quality specialist. He worked his way up through the ranks, becoming the acting director of the Information Management Division in 1999. The same year he was promoted to Assistant Deputy Executive Officer. In his current position, Chris is responsible for implementing strategic information technologies and directing the activities of the information technology staff, which responds to client service requests, and provide computing infrastructure and software application solutions.

A Monrovia resident for 20 years, Chris and his wife, Jan, recently celebrated their 25th anniversary. His hobbies include attending tennis matches and volleyball and soccer games at Monrovia High School to cheer on daughters Gemma and Tessa; and visiting on-line with his eldest daughter, Lisa, a sophomore majoring in exercise biology at UC Davis.

Clean Air PEOPLE

Meet the diversely talented people who work at the AQMD.

AQMD Advisor

Tuyet-Le Pham



Five years after the fall of Saigon, a brave young woman, just out of high school, left her troubled homeland, her family and along with 275 others boarded a boat that should have accommodated about 50 people, set off to find freedom. After two days of seeing only the horizon, food washed away by rains, and only a small knapsack to call her own, the tiny boat reached Singapore, and then was turned away. After two more days on the seas they docked in Malaysia. From there she was able to come to the United States under the sponsorship of her brother.

Le Pham joined the AQMD in July 1988 as an inspector in the refinery section. She was then promoted to transportation specialist and is now an air quality specialist in PM10, Planning. She was the lead in developing Rule 1133 for composting and chipping/grinding operations, which are the first control measures in the nation targeting emissions reductions from such industries. She holds a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from UC Irvine, and a master's in Petroleum

Engineering from USC.

Le has two young daughters and a son. She teaches Vietnamese to Vietnamese children at a Catholic church on weekends, enjoys cooking and Ikebana (Japanese flower arrangements). "It is important that I set an example for my children by conserving energy and recycling," Le said. She was brought up to not waste any of our precious resources. Le said that she is teaching her children that it is their responsibility to clean the air by doing their fair share through ridesharing and using public transportation. "Living here is a privilege, and not something that I will ever take for granted," Le stated solemnly.

Michelle White



When Michelle White was hired in 1991 as a student worker, AQMD operated out of headquarters located in El Monte - - and she was a hometown kid. Born in East Los Angeles, raised and schooled in El Monte, and a graduate of Rio Hondo College in Whittier, little did she know how her life experience would soon unfold so close to home.

Today, Michelle assists with project administration as a contracts assistant in the Technology Advancement office where she began. But the 12 years in between have included marriage, two children, and impressive skill-building, both professionally and personally.

"I really think it's accurate to say I've grown up here," she says. "As I look back, I realize my fellow

employees have helped make me a better person and parent just by 'being there' for me along the way."

Michelle began raising a family at the same time as she helped set up file systems for the agency's growing research & development program. "I've cut my teeth on demonstration contracts dealing with almost every clean technology out there, from hydrogen fuel to water-based paints," she says.

Michelle's son Jared, age 8, and daughter Koren, age 5, are both active in the Kare Youth League based in Arcadia. "I'm happy that they're learning positive personal values as a foundation for organized sports, rather than the other way around," she notes.

Michelle and husband Lance firmly believe that childhood is a time for learning to appreciate both the traditional and the new, each day. "My mom and stepdad are a huge source of nearby support - - and the best childcare around," she says, "and my in-laws in Hawaii give us a wonderful extended family that - - well, really extends!"



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Briefly...

20TH INTERNATIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE SYMPOSIUM & EXPOSITION

- November 15-19, 2003, Long Beach Convention Center
- Public Days, November 15-16, 2003

More than 100 exhibits and over 50 electric, hybrid and fuel cell vehicles will be available for ride-and-drive on portions of the Long Beach Grand Prix route. For information, visit www.evs20.org. For discount coupons, visit www.aqmd.gov/tao/docs/Public_Day_Flier.pdf

RULE COMPLIANCE PROMOTION CLASSES

Forthcoming compliance classes will be held as follows:

Rule 461-Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing

Pre-registration is required for the following three classes. To reserve a space, download the

registration form at www.aqmd/comply/compclass.html or call Michele Martinez at (909) 396-3058.

Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing Annual Periodic Inspection

- February 19-20, 2004
- This two-day class will be held at AQMD Headquarters from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the first day and from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the second day. There is a \$150 registration fee, with pre-registration required.



Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing Tester Orientation Training

- February 13, 2004
- The classes are held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at AQMD

Headquarters. There is a \$100 class fee.

Daily Self-Inspection Class for Service Station Owners/Operators

- February 5, 2004
- The classes are held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at AQMD Headquarters. There is a \$50 class fee.

Rule 1403-Asbestos Demolition/ Renovation Activities

- December 18, 2003
 - January 14, 2004
- The classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at AQMD Headquarters. There is a \$30 class fee. Registration can be arranged by calling (909) 396-2381 or by sending e-mail to jmoore@aqmd.gov.

EMPLOYEE COMMUTE REDUCTION PROGRAM TRAINING CLASSES

- December 3-4, 2003, AQMD Headquarters, Diamond Bar Employee Commute Reduction

Program Training classes for new Employee Transportation Coordinators are held for two full days from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There is a \$52.79 registration fee. To reserve a space, call Lisa Patterson at (909) 396-2283.

AQMD Advisor

This bimonthly news publication is produced by the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) Public Affairs Office. AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. AQMD does not endorse or warrant any products, services or companies mentioned in this publication.

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