FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 10, 2025

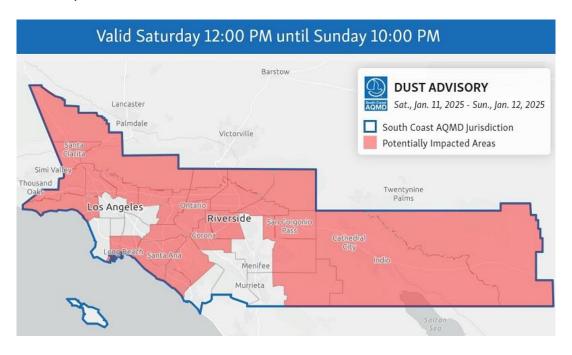
MEDIA CONTACT:

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Connie Villanueva, (909) 396-2409, Cell: (909) 215-5601

press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Windblown Dust Advisory Due to High Winds

Valid until Sunday 10:00 PM



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

Current Conditions

The South Coast AQMD has issued a windblown dust advisory due to strong Santa Ana winds
gusting to 30 to 60 mph on Saturday through Sunday evening. The National Weather Service
(NWS) has issued Red Flag Warnings and High Wind Warnings throughout the area. Visit the
NWS San Diego www.weather.gov/sgx and NWS Los Angeles www.weather.gov/lox websites for
more information.

- Blowing dust may result in Air Quality Index (AQI) levels that are **Unhealthy** or worse in most of Los Angeles, Orange, and Riverside Counties in the South Coast Air Basin and the Coachella Valley. The highest AQI is expected in and around Rancho Cucamonga, Santa Ana, Anaheim, Riverside, San Bernardino, and the Coachella Valley.
- The highest winds in the Coachella Valley are expected between 5 PM Saturday and 5 PM Sunday
- High PM10 levels in the region are a result of gusty Santa Ana winds, which can lift dust and soil
 into the air
- North to northeast winds might reach 30 to 40 mph with gusts up to 60 mph
- High winds may also disperse ash from the Palisades, Eaton, Hurst, Kenneth, Line, Airport, and Bridge fire burn scars
- Wind speeds and PM10 levels are expected to decrease throughout the region starting Sunday
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions

Detailed Forecast

Saturday daytime	Wind gusts up to 45 mph on Saturday afternoon. PM10 due to windblown dust is expected to be in the Moderate to Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI categories.
Saturday nighttime and Sunday morning	High wind speeds are expected from Saturday evening around 5 pm through Sunday noon, with PM10 levels in the Unhealthy or worse AQI category expected in most of Los Angeles, Orange, and Riverside Counties in the South Coast Air Basin and the Coachella Valley. The highest AQI is expected in and around Orange County, Riverside, San Bernardino, and the Coachella Valley.
Sunday afternoon and evening	Wind gusts will be lower on Sunday afternoon. PM10 due to windblown dust is expected to be in the Good to Moderate AQI categories overnight.

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 www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter) and Instagram.

###