



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

www.aqmd.gov

@SouthCoastAQMD    

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** November 6, 2024

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

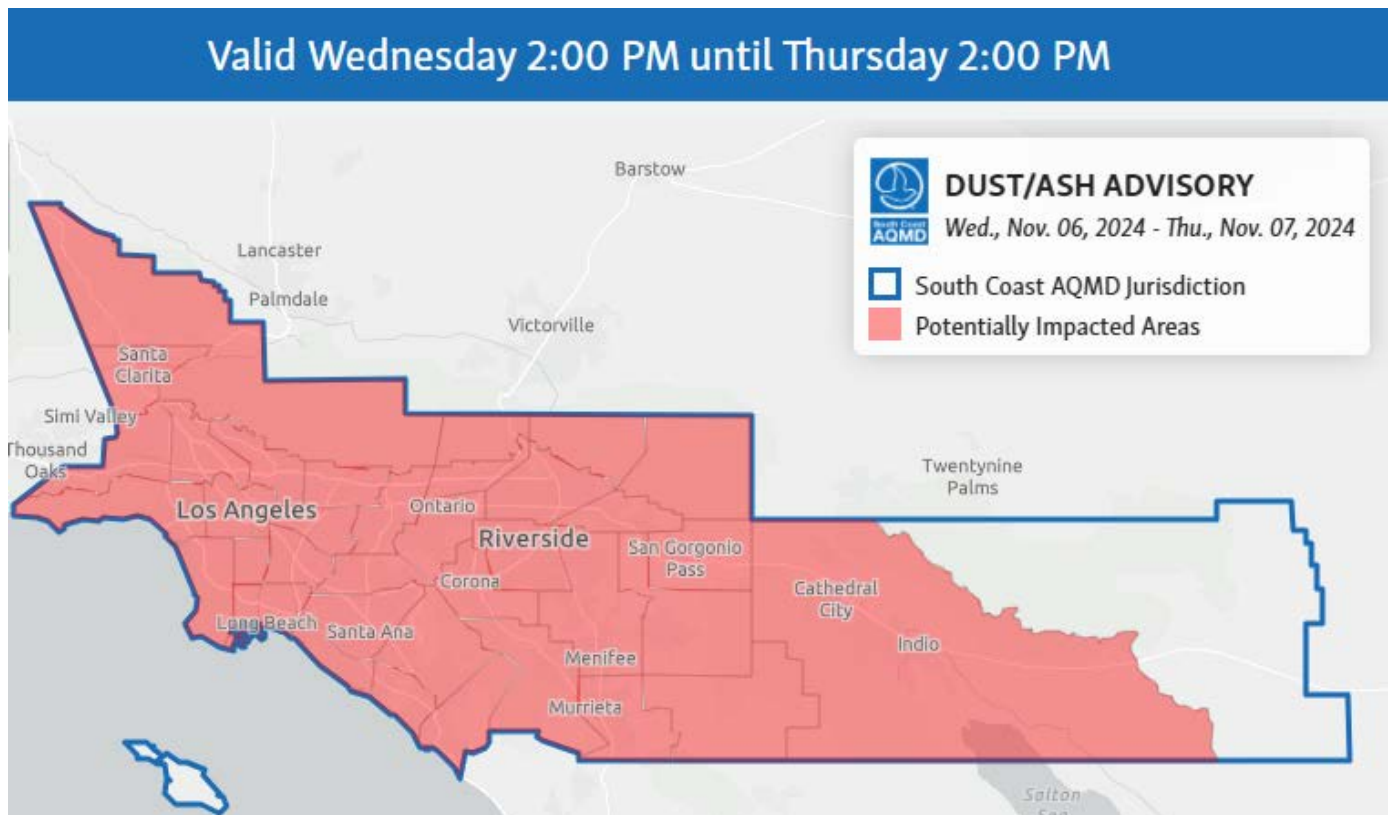
Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431

Kim White, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9479

[press@aqmd.gov](mailto:press@aqmd.gov)

## Windblown Dust and Ash Advisory Expanded to Cover Most of the South Coast Air Basin

*Valid Wednesday 2:00 p.m. until Thursday 2:00 p.m.*



### Current Conditions

- South Coast AQMD is expanding the area covered by the dust advisory.
- Based on satellite and webcam imagery, widespread dust is affecting the Coachella Valley and most of the South Coast Air Basin. High winds are also dispersing ash from the recent fire burn scars.
- Regulatory monitors in Mira Loma, Anaheim, Long Beach and Lake Elsinore measured PM10 levels in the **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or worse Air Quality Index (AQI) categories.

- As of Wednesday at noon, the National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a High Wind Watch and Red Flag Warnings throughout the area. Visit the NWS San Diego [www.weather.gov/sgx](http://www.weather.gov/sgx) and NWS Los Angeles [www.weather.gov/lox](http://www.weather.gov/lox) websites for more information.
- Information about Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety is available at [www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety](http://www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety).

To view current air quality in your neighborhood, download the [South Coast AQMD app](#) or visit [www.aqmd.gov/AQImap](http://www.aqmd.gov/AQImap).

**Forecasted Air Quality Impacts**

- Blowing dust may result in Air Quality Index (AQI) levels that are **Unhealthy** or worse
- High PM10 levels in the region are a result of gusty Santa Ana winds, which can lift dust and soil into the air
- The highest PM10 levels are expected in the Riverside area
- High winds may also disperse ash from the Line, Airport, and Bridge fire burn scars
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions

**Detailed Forecast**

Wednesday daytime	High PM10 levels are expected to continue when gusty winds from the northeast persist. <b>Unhealthy</b> or worse AQI levels due to PM10 are possible in the Coachella Valley, most of the South Coast Air Basin and mountain area.
Wednesday nighttime	High wind speeds with <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> or worse AQI levels are expected overnight in the area.
Thursday morning and afternoon	Wind speeds and PM10 levels are expected to decrease throughout the region after 7 a.m. Thursday leading to <b>Moderate</b> AQI levels.

*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.
- Always wear proper personal protective equipment (long sleeve shirts, pants, gloves and safety glasses) when working around ash. A well-fitting respirator such as an N-95 may provide some protection. If you do get ash on your skin, wash it off as soon as possible.
- Do not use leaf blowers or take other actions (e.g., dry sweeping) that will put ash into the air. To clean up ash, use vacuums equipped with High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters.

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

###