



Mojave Desert AQMD

# An Introduction

*Our Mission and Activities*

Presentation to the  
Needles City Council

December 10, 2024



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

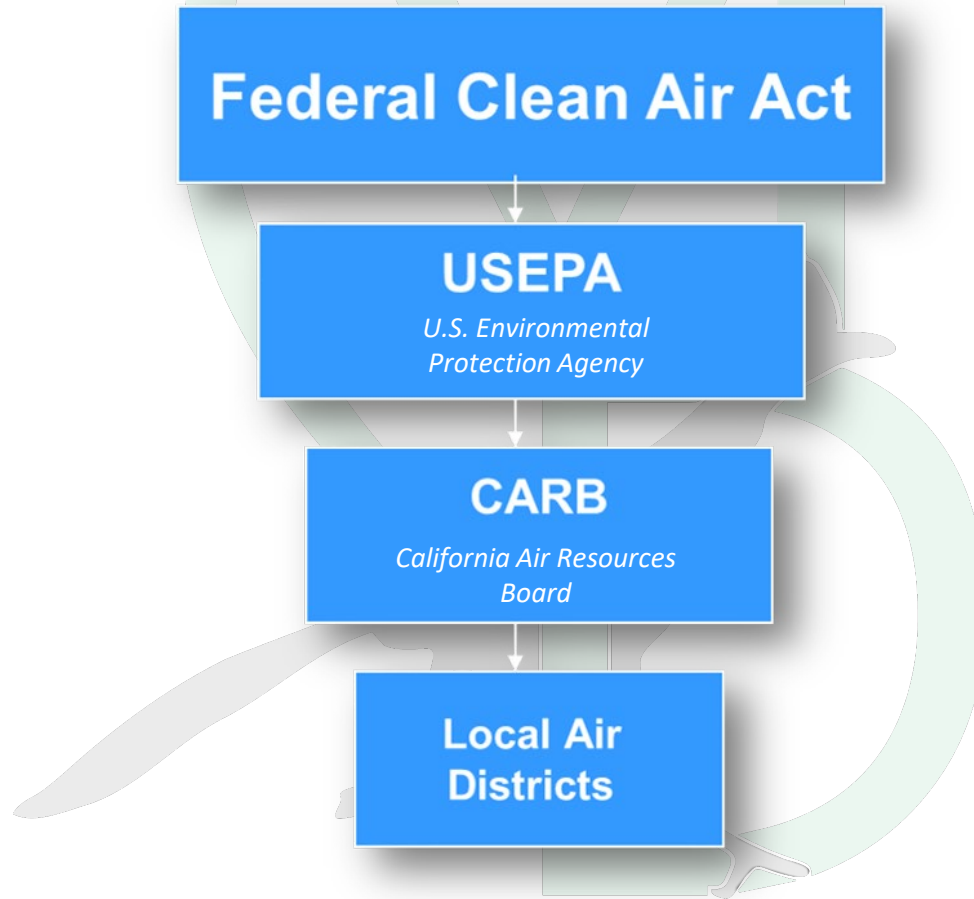
## What is an air district?

- Regional control of air pollution from ***non-vehicular sources***.
- Body corporate, political and public entity of state; an ***“Independent Special District.”***
- Regulatory agency with general authority to adopt ***“Rules & Regulations”*** to achieve and maintain air quality.
- Required to do such acts as are ***necessary and proper*** to execute the power and duties as imposed by law.



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## An AQMD's Regulatory Authority

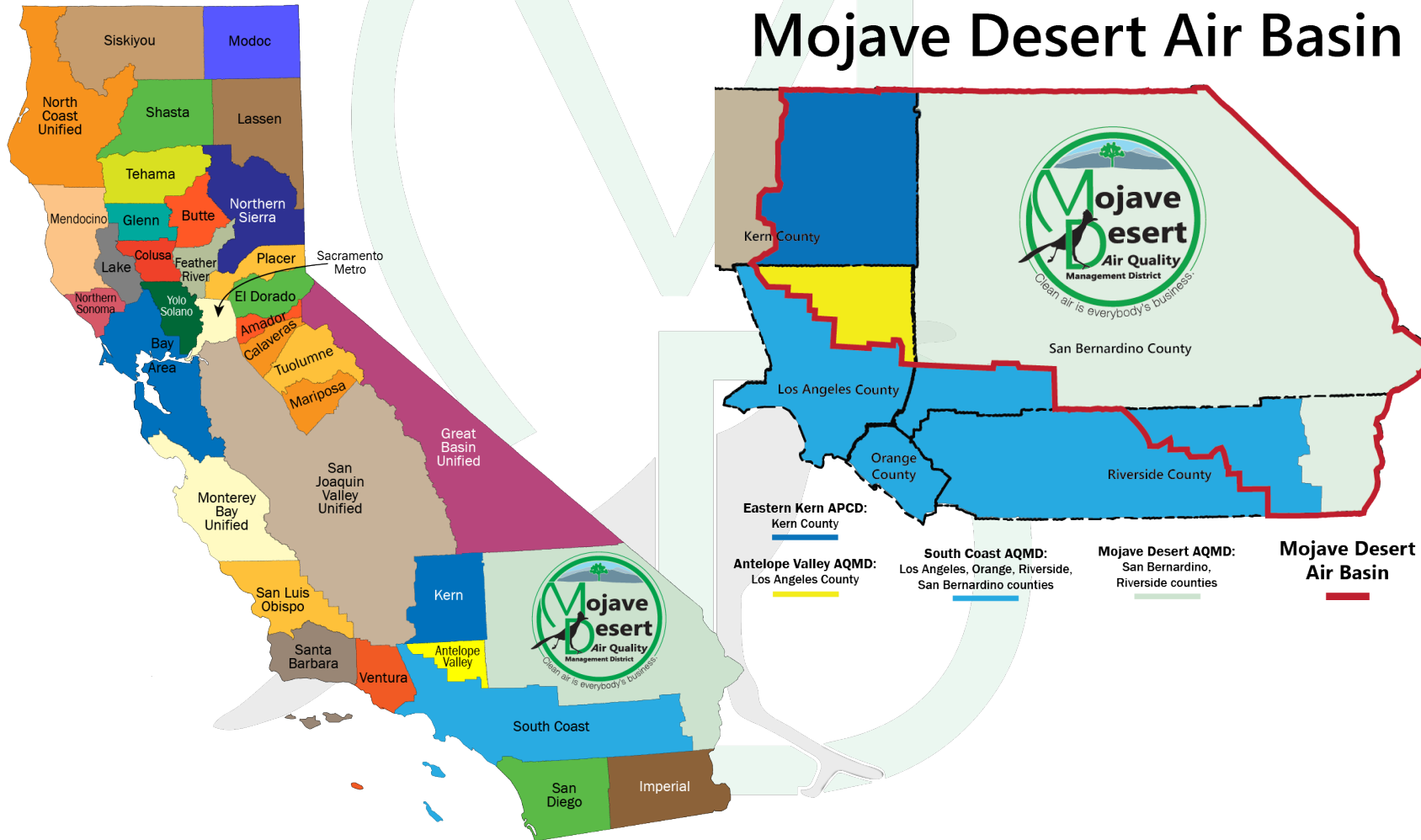


# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## California's 35 Air Districts



### Mojave Desert Air Basin



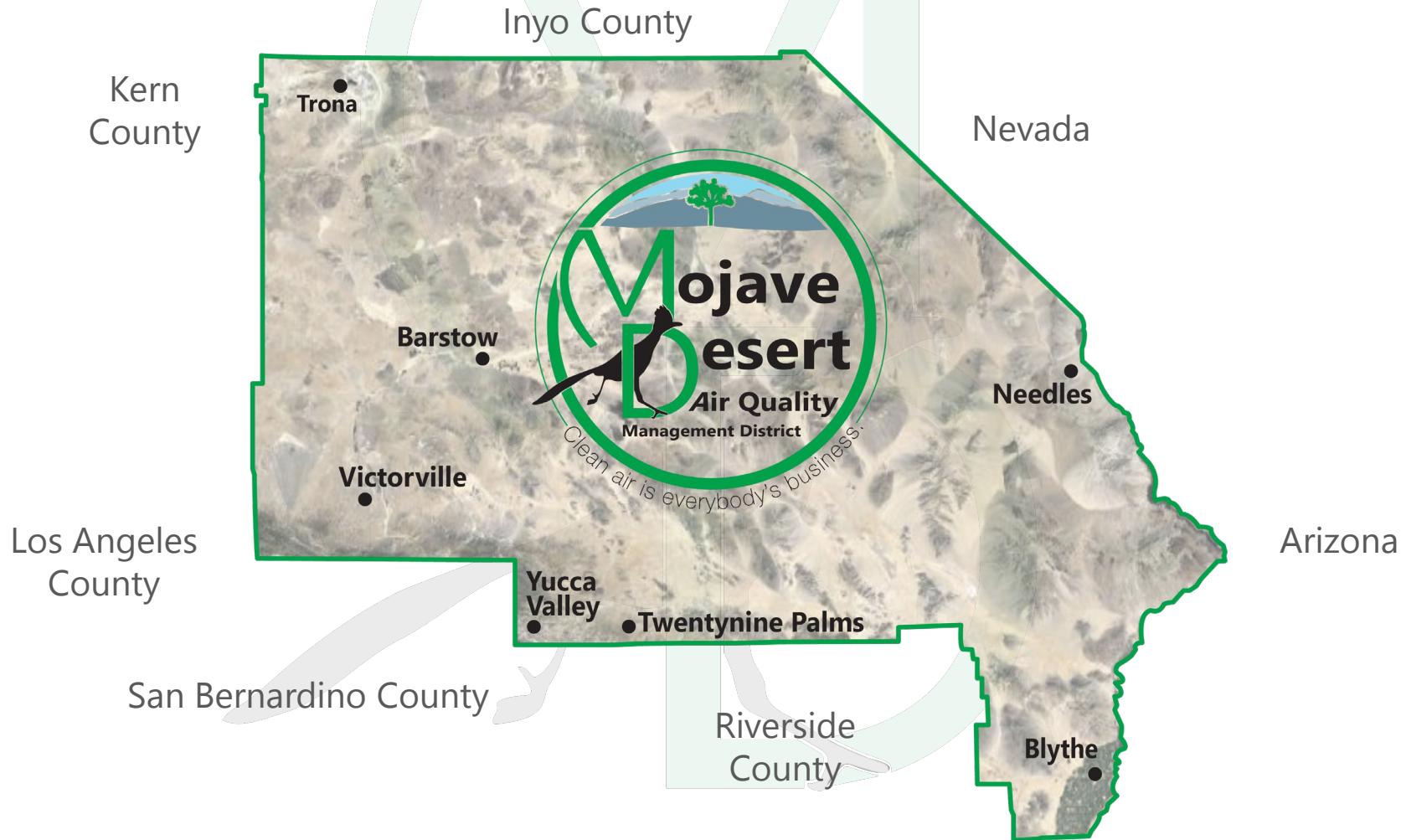
# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## About Our District

- Regional agency with primary authority to regulate ***stationary sources*** of air pollution.
- Geographically, second largest air district in California at more than ***20,000 square miles***, including:
  - *Most of San Bernardino County (desert portion)*
  - *Palo Verde Valley in Riverside County*
- 1,450+ permitted facilities
- 4,700+ active permits
- Population served: ***600k*** (approx.)



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction About Our District



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction


## Our Governing Board



**CHAIR**  
**Kari Leon**  
*Town of Apple Valley*




**VICE CHAIR**  
**Brigit Bennington**  
*City of Hesperia*



**Gabriel Reyes**  
*City of Adelanto*




**Carmen Hernandez**  
*City of Barstow*




**Joey DeConinck**  
*City of Blythe*



**Jamie McCorkle**  
*City of Needles*



**SUPERVISOR V. Manuel Perez**  
*County of Riverside 4th District*



**SUPERVISOR Col. (Ret.) Paul Cook**  
*County of San Bernardino 1st District*




**SUPERVISOR Dawn Rowe**  
*County of San Bernardino 3rd District*



**Daniel Mintz Sr.**  
*City of Twentynine Palms*



**Elizabeth "Liz" Becerra**  
*City of Victorville*



**Merl Abel**  
*Town of Yucca Valley*



**Robert Lovingood**  
*Public Member*

# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction Our Executive Director

**Brad Poiriez**, *Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer*

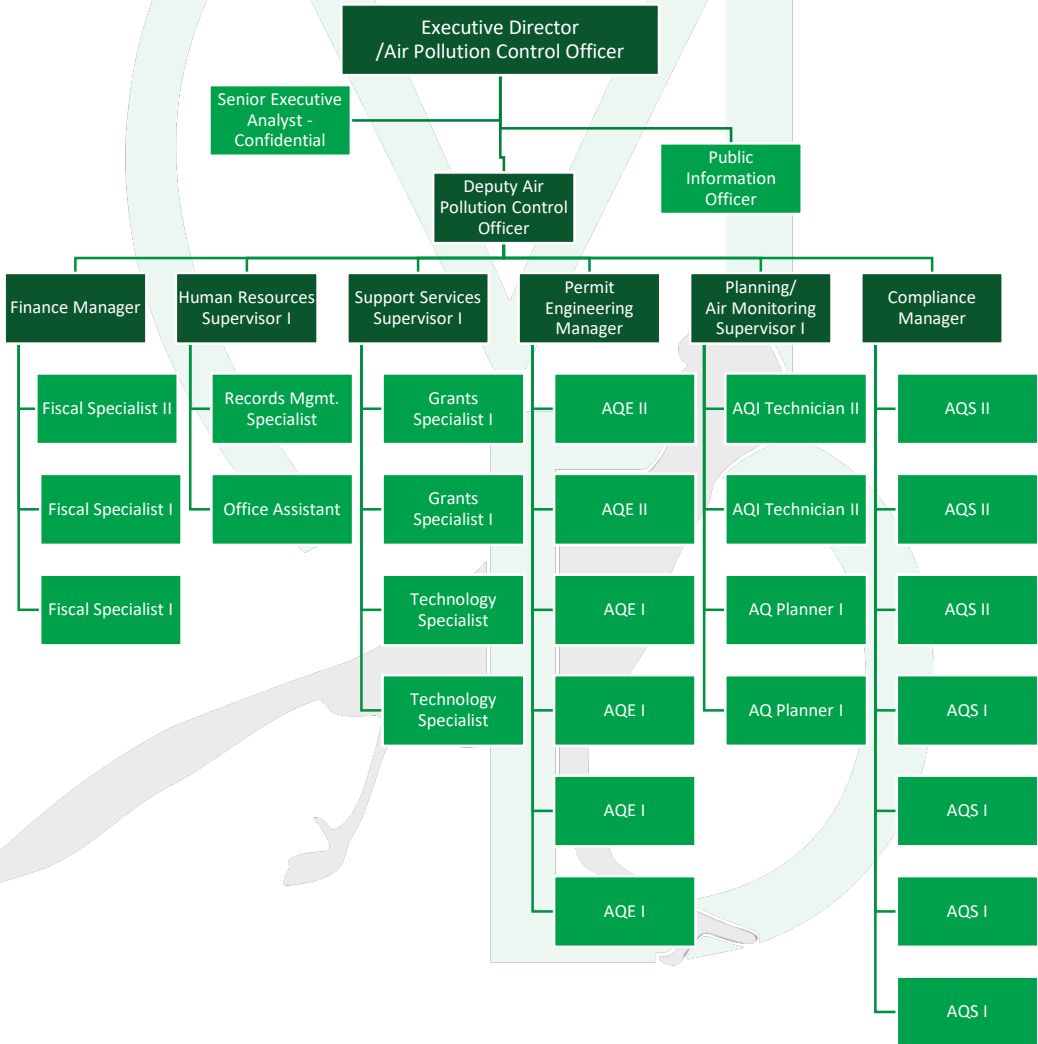






# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## District Organization



FULL TIME (FTE) = 36  
 Total = 36  
 Updated 3/4/2024

# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## Air Monitoring

### Measured pollutants

#### Barstow:

Ozone  
Nitrogen Dioxide  
PM10

#### Hesperia:

Ozone  
PM10

#### Lucerne Valley:

Ozone  
PM10

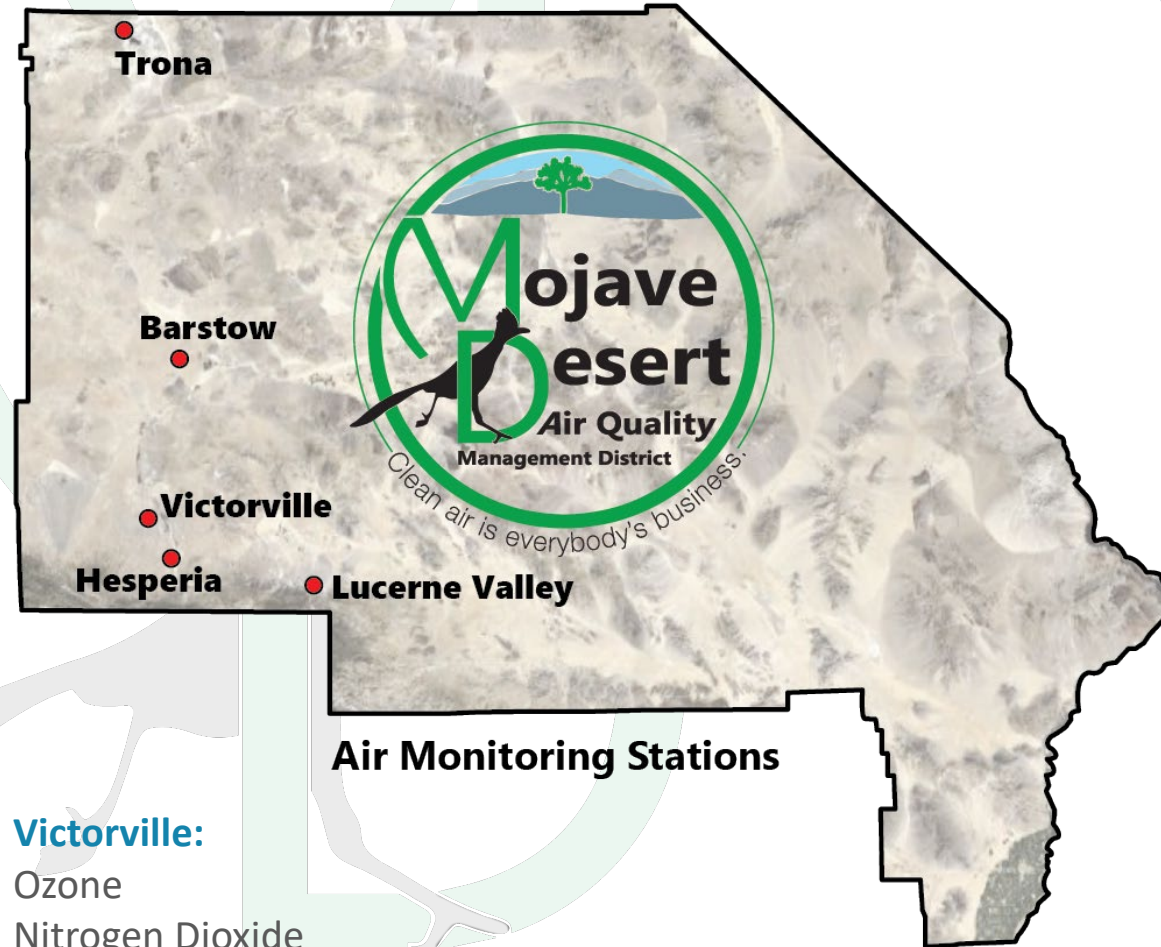
#### Trona:

Ozone  
Nitrogen Dioxide  
Hydrogen Sulfide  
PM10

#### Victorville:

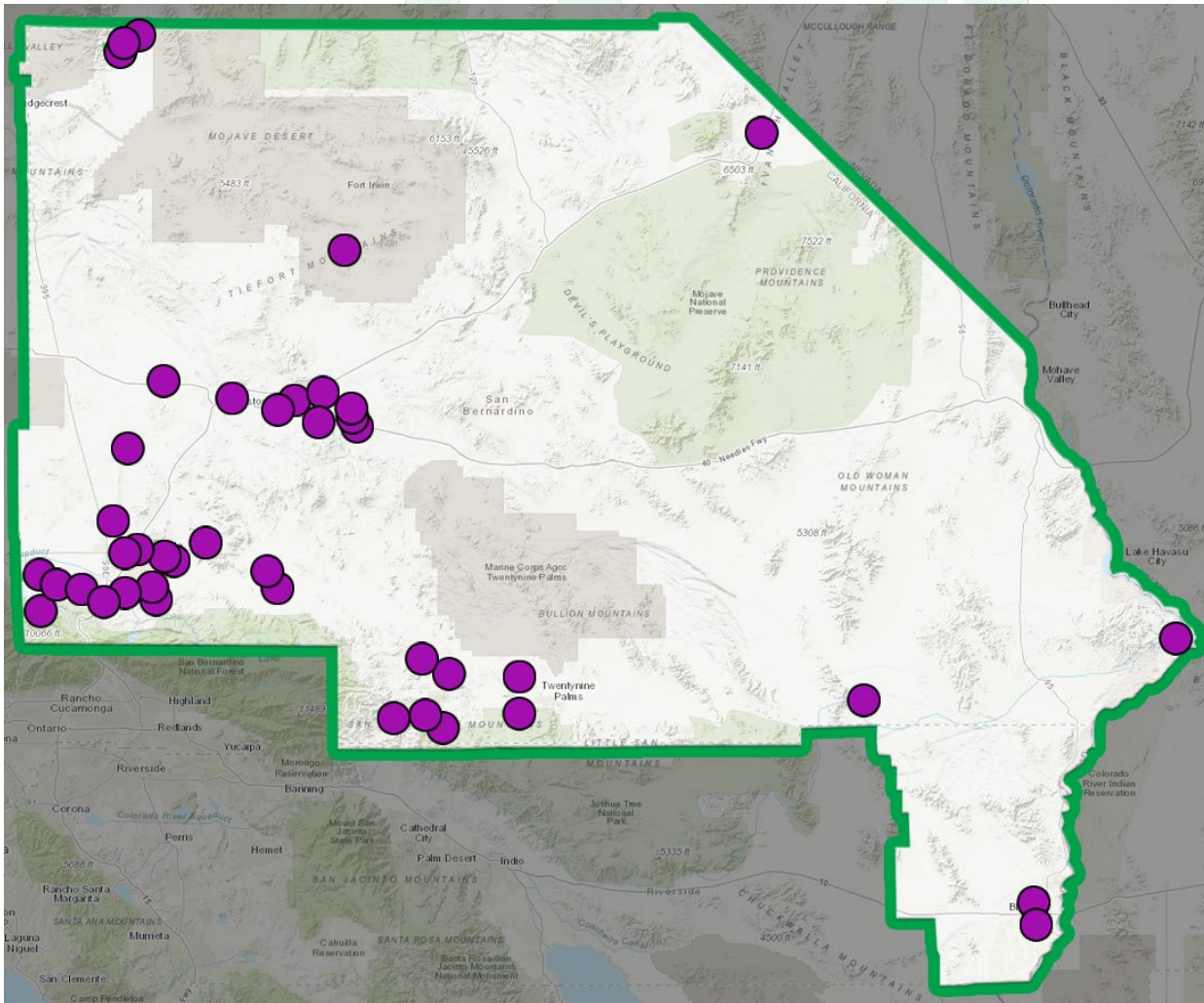
Ozone  
Nitrogen Dioxide  
PM10 & PM2.5

PM: *Particulate Matter*



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## Low-cost Purple Air sensors



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## Not just another air district...

- **Most business friendly air district in the state.**
- **Among lowest permitting fees in California.**
- **Streamlined/expedited permit application process:**
  - *1 on 1 assistance from knowledgeable, accessible staff.*
- **Compliance through education**
  - *Industry and staff workshops;*
  - *Classroom and career fair visits by Public Information staff;*
  - *Regular outreach with stakeholders, chambers of commerce, etc.*
- **Less-stringent regulations than neighboring air districts.**
- **Inclusive, common sense approach to air quality regulation.**
- **Advocate progressive New Source Review reforms & innovative emission credit trading structures.**
- **Lead sponsor agency of the Mojave Environmental Education Consortium, a public-private nonprofit organization which links High Desert educators with quality, standards-based environmental education resources, free of charge.**



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## Grants/incentive funding

- Grant funds that provide incentives to both public and private sectors to reduce emissions by retiring and replacing older equipment with newer, cleaner engine technologies.
- Provide enforceable, surplus, and quantifiable and permanent emission reductions.





# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction Grants/incentive funding

The Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program (Carl Moyer Program) provides grant funding for cleaner-than-required engines, equipment, and other sources of air pollution.

www.MDAQMD.ca.gov/grants

## Carl Moyer Program

EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS  
INCENTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

The banner features the MDAQMD logo on the left, a check for 'One Million Dollars' payable to 'Carl Moyer' in the center, and a photo of a group of people in front of a bus on the right.

# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## Grants/incentive funding-Carl Moyer

### Carl Moyer

#### Types of Projects

- On-Road Heavy Duty Vehicles
- Off-Road Compression-Ignition Equipment
- Locomotives
- Zero-Emission Infrastructure



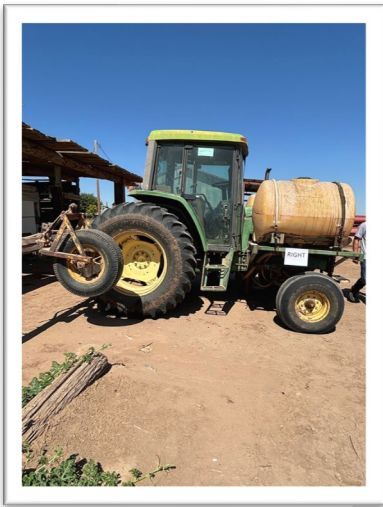
# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## Grants/incentive funding



### FARMER Program

- Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER)
- Primarily focused on agricultural equipment (tractors, harvesting equipment, agricultural pumps, other equipment used specifically in agricultural operations)





# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## Grants/incentive funding

### Community Air Protection Program

- Created by AB 617 passed by the state Legislature in 2017, CAPP provides incentives to both public and private sectors to reduce emissions by retiring and replacing older equipment with newer, cleaner engine technologies in communities most impacted by pollution.
  - 11 zero-emission school bus replacements
  - Zero-Emission infrastructure required for the buses
  - 2 forklifts



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction Grants/incentive funding



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction Grants/incentive funding



*Apple Valley Unified  
School District*



*Adelanto Elementary  
School District*



*Lucerne Valley Unified  
School District*

# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## Grants/incentive funding

### VAVR

- Voluntary Accelerated Vehicle Retirement program pays \$1,000 for qualifying (model year 1997 or older) car, van or light- and medium-duty trucks.

### Electric Vehicle charging stations

- Seven EVC stations available for free, 24/7 public use at MDAQMD headquarters in Victorville. Continuing to develop EVC infrastructure throughout jurisdiction. Past funded stations located in Apple Valley, Barstow, Blythe, Needles and Yucca Valley.

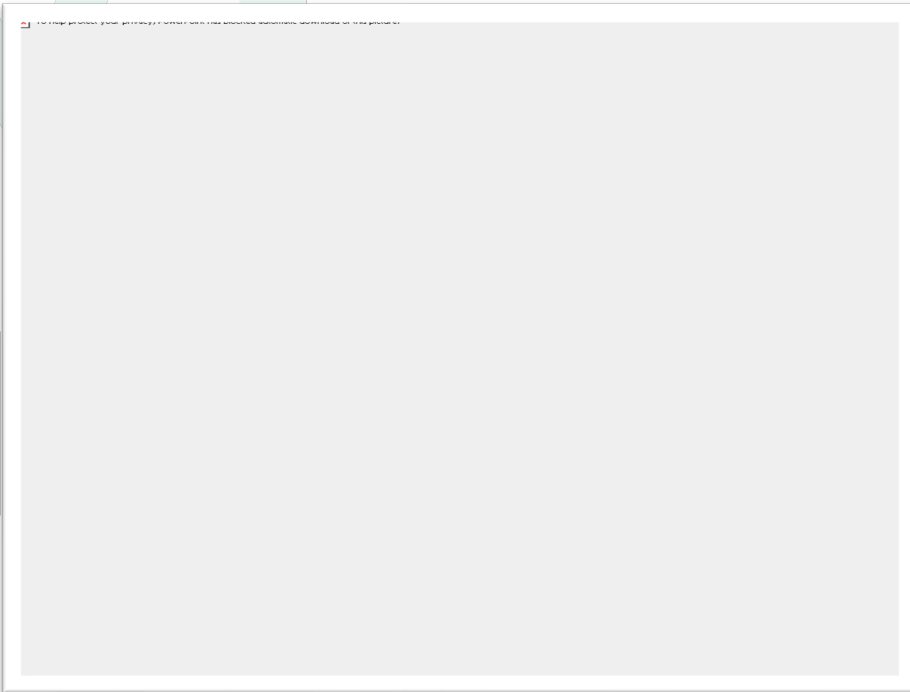




# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction Grants/incentive funding

## Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange

- Annual program to purchase zero-emission electric lawn equipment at discounted price (requires trade-in of working gas equipment).



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction

## Grant funding in action

- \$4 million in Carl Moyer funding to replace off-road equipment and fund zero-emission infrastructure projects.
- \$3 million in Direct FARMER allocations to replace agricultural equipment.
- \$4 million in CAPP funds to replace diesel school buses with zero-emission alternatives.
- Lawn & Garden Residential Equipment Exchange Program (1650 pieces exchanged in 2024).



# Mojave Desert AQMD: An Introduction Questions?

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