

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 13, 2019

South Coast AQMD Continues Smoke Advisory Due to Saddleridge Fire in Los Angeles County

Valid: Sunday, October 13 through Monday, October 14, 2019

This advisory is in effect through Monday morning. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

The Saddleridge Fire is burning near Sylmar, Granada Hills, and Porter Ranch in Los Angeles County. As of 8:00 am on Saturday, the burn area was reported at 7,965 acres with 41% containment. Based on satellite and webcam imagery, the Saddleridge fire is producing much less visible smoke than yesterday. As a result, the South Coast AQMD's monitors in Reseda, North Hollywood, and Santa Clarita are showing only slightly elevated PM2.5 concentrations, which is resulting in Moderate AQI levels on late Sunday morning. Visit https://www.aqmd.gov/aqdata to view current air quality conditions.

Winds in the area of the Saddleridge Fire are expected to push any remaining smoke towards the north on Sunday afternoon. If the fire continues to generate smoke, elevated PM2.5 concentrations are only expected north of the I-405/I-5 interchange throughout the day on Sunday. Variable winds overnight with a shallow mixing layer may lead to localized smoke impacts in valleys close to the fire. A wind shift expected in the early morning hours on Monday may transport any remaining smoke towards the south and back into the San Fernando Valley.

In summary, if the fire continues to generate smoke on Sunday afternoon through Monday morning, smoke may impact portions of the San Fernando Valley, the Santa Clarita Valley, and the western San Gabriel Mountains. This could result in elevated PM2.5 concentrations and air quality index values in the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups range throughout the advisory period.

Areas of direct impacts and poor air quality may include portions of:

Los Angeles County: West San Fernando Valley (Area 6), East San Fernando Valley (Area 7),
Santa Clarita Valley (Area 13), San Gabriel Mountains (Area 15)



In any area impacted by smoke: If you smell smoke or see ash due to a wildfire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter, and avoiding vigorous physical activity. For more tips on protecting yourself during a wildfire, see South Coast AQMD's Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety Tips page: http://www.agmd.gov/wildfire-health-info-smoke-tips.

- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: www.aqmd.gov/advisory
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to www.AirAlerts.org
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see <u>www.aqmd.gov/aqimap</u>
- For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp
- Air quality forecasts are available at http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside 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, Twitter and Instagram.