

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 1, 2025

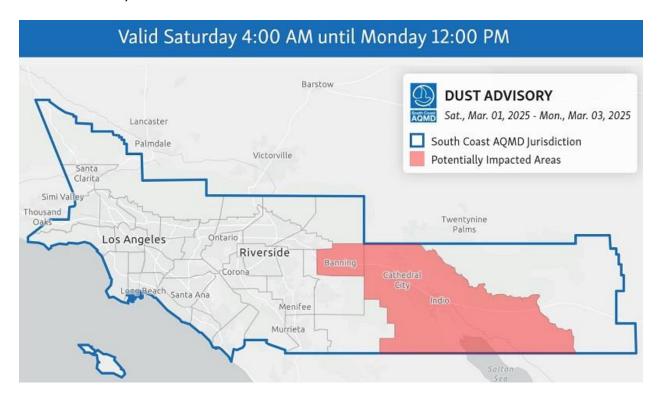
MEDIA CONTACT:

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Rainbow Yeung: (909) 396-3373, Cell: (909) 967-2477

press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Extends Windblown Dust Advisory Due to High Winds in the Banning Pass and Coachella Valley

Valid until Monday 12:00 PM



Current Conditions

- South Coast AQMD has extended a windblown dust advisory through noon on Monday.
- As of 10 AM on Saturday morning, wind gusts up to 40 mph were observed in the Coachella Valley.

- Gusty winds are causing blowing dust with particle pollution (PM10) levels in the Good to Hazardous Air Quality Index (AQI) categories in parts of the Coachella Valley.
- The National Weather Service has issued a wind advisory for the San Gorgonio Pass through 4 PM Monday. See <u>National Weather Service Website</u>. for more information about the wind advisory.

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

Forecasted Air Quality Impacts

- Blowing dust may result in poor air quality in the Banning Pass and Coachella Valley from 4 AM Saturday to 12 PM Monday
- High PM10 levels in the region are a result of gusty winds, which can lift dust and soil into the air
- Winds from the west and northwest with gusts up to 65 mph are predicted through Monday morning
- Air quality can vary by hour and location depending on wind conditions

Detailed Forecast

Saturday morning and afternoon	Wind gusts and PM10 levels will increase through Saturday afternoon. PM10 levels in the Unhealthy to Hazardous AQI categories are possible, with the highest levels expected in parts of the Coachella Valley.
Saturday night and Sunday daytime	High wind gusts up to 65 mph are expected through Sunday morning. PM10 levels are predicted to range from Very Unhealthy to Hazardous or higher AQI categories, with the highest levels expected in the Coachella Valley.
Sunday night and Monday morning	Wind speeds will decrease during Sunday night and Monday morning. PM10 levels are predicted to range from Moderate to Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or higher AQI categories, with the highest levels expected in the Coachella Valley.

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.

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