



County of Riverside General Plan - *Hearing Draft*

Air Quality Element

for generating large amounts of particulate matter from sources such as agriculture, warehousing operations, and truck traffic.

While Riverside County is dedicated to implementing policies to control particulate matter produced within its own boundaries, it has no control over particulate imported from beyond its boundaries. The solution to the problem of imported particulate matter in western Riverside County is the adoption of adequate control measures by those responsible jurisdictions in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. By adhering to the control measures contained in the AQMP, these jurisdictions can have a positive impact on particulate matter pollution in the SOCAB portion of Riverside County.

The air quality concerns in the Salton Sea Air Basin (SSAB) portions of the County differ somewhat from those in western Riverside County. Unlike the SOCAB region, particulates in SSAB are primarily dust, smoke and soot. While in 1993 and 1994, PM₁₀ concentrations were under the federal standard, concentrations in 1995 were slightly above federal limits. The maximum annual average PM₁₀ concentration in 1995 was recorded at 4% above the federal standard; however, the measurement included one day with high winds without which the SSAB would have been under the federal standard. The far more stringent state standards were exceeded on 44% of the days in 1995.

The Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB), like the SOCAB and SSAB, is designated as a non-attainment area for PM₁₀. Particulates in the MDAB are primarily fugitive caused by high winds or vehicle travel on unpaved roads. Particulates in the area are generally not caused by exhaust stacks or primary emission points.

While sources and severity of particulate pollution differ in subareas of the County, it is the County's objective to control particulate matter throughout all of Riverside County. However, where necessary, the County shall tailor its control measures and implementation procedures to best address the unique situations found in each area. One example of such an area is the Mira Loma community, where particulate pollutant levels are among the worst in the nation. In such an area, strong measures must be taken immediately to protect the health and welfare of residents, especially children, the elderly and those with respiratory illnesses.

Monitoring

Air quality monitoring stations are locating throughout Riverside County (Figure AQ-2). However, at times it may be necessary to locate additional monitors in those areas of the County suspected of producing excessively high levels of particulates. This more localized data may then assist control and law enforcement efforts in reducing and minimizing particulate matter levels.

Policies:

AQ 15.1 Identify and monitor sources, enforce existing regulations, and promote stronger controls to reduce particulate matter.