

Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Enforcement Task Force  
Boys and Girls Club – Mecca, CA  
July 26, 2017

**Meeting Notes**

- ❖ Welcome & Introductions
  - Agencies, groups and organizations present:
    - [South Coast Air Quality Management District](#) (South Coast AQMD)
    - [Regional Water Quality Control Board – Colorado River Basin](#) (RWQCB – Region 7)
    - [Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District](#) (CVMVCD)
    - [Riverside County Agricultural Commissioner](#) (Ag Commissioner)
    - [Office of Congressman Raul Ruiz](#)
    - [Coalition for Clean Air](#)
    - La union Hace la Fuerza
    - People Over Pollution
    - Local resident
  
- ❖ IVAN Website Updates - <https://ivan-coachella.org/> [no update]
  
- ❖ Monthly Salton Sea Update
  - People Over Pollution: A community discussion of alternate solutions to the Salton Sea will be held by community groups on Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at 4-6 pm at the Mecca Public Library, 91260 66<sup>th</sup> Ave Mecca, CA . Examples of alternate solutions include the sea-to-sea proposal to import water from Sea of Cortez.
  - [Salton Sea Management Program](#): completed a series of community workshops held in 6 communities around the Salton Sea, including Mecca, Indio and Rancho Mirage. Workshops provided information on the Program's 10-year plan and
  
- ❖ Nicholas Burant, Coalition for Clean Air (CCA) – “Kids Making Sense” program
  - CCA is doing an educational program in Eastern Coachella Valley using funding provided under the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) program
  - The program provides high school students with AirBeam portable air monitors for a project and brings in policymakers to talk to the students
  - Although AirBeam monitors do not meet EPA standards, they are good tools for instructional purposes and measure PM 2.5 levels with reasonable accuracy to provide meaningful data
  - The group would like to do this project at the Desert Mirage HS
  - To learn more, contact Nick Burant, Program Manager at [nicholas@ccair.org](mailto:nicholas@ccair.org)
  
- ❖ Lupe Rosales, La Union Hace La Fuerza – Air Quality citizen science project
  - The group has been installing stationary air monitors on houses at six locations around the Coachella Valley. These are low-cost monitors that meet regulatory standards.
  - Next group meeting about the monitors will be on September 8
  - Monitor installation will begin next week
  
- ❖ Review new Task Force schedule for one meeting in the fall at 5 pm

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE - COACHELLA VALLEY**

Community Chair: Humberto Lugo Comité Civico del Valle 760-550-3650, [humberto@ccvhealth.org](mailto:humberto@ccvhealth.org)

Government Chair: Maria Davydova Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board: 760-776-8947, [maria.davydova@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:maria.davydova@waterboards.ca.gov)

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Meeting Minutes, July 27, 2017

- Task Force plans to hold an evening meeting in the fall to make the task force more accessible to community members. Tentative meeting month is October 2017.

❖ Roundtable: Member Updates & Announcements

➤ CVMVCD

- West Nile Virus is active this year in Coachella Valley, no human cases. More information at the top of the page here: <http://cvmvcd.org/virusactivity.htm>
- Invasive mosquito *Aedes aegypti* was detected in Coachella Valley this year. This mosquito species is capable of transmitting dangerous viruses, such as Zika, however, currently there is no mosquito transmission of Zika in California. <http://cvmvcd.org/virusactivity.htm>
- CVMVCD will conduct larval control applications in Palm Springs this Saturday. More details at the bottom of the page here: <http://cvmvcd.org/controlactivities.htm>

➤ South Coast AQMD

- AQMD regularly provides compliance training for Dust Control in Coachella Valley (Rule 403 & 403.1). The class is held every third Thursday at the CVAG building in Palm Desert. Please register ahead of time to make sure the class is not cancelled. Email [dustcontrol@aqmd.gov](mailto:dustcontrol@aqmd.gov) to register, see [details posted here](#).
- Commercial Leaf Blower Exchange Program registration is now open, exchange in Coachella Valley will be in Palm Springs on August 14. Electric Lawn Mower Rebate Program is also available. Call 888-425-6247 for both programs. [Lawn Equipment program page](#)

➤ Ag Commissioner

- The County Ag Commissioner's office addresses many issues, including pest management and pesticide use enforcement.
- If you have been in direct contact with pesticides due to drift, call 911 for help. Contact the County Agriculture Commissioner's Office at (951) 955-3000 for information and /or to submit a complaint when human health is not in immediate danger.

➤ Office of Congressman Raul Ruiz

- Congressman serves on the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment; the Office is considering an EJ bill and is putting together a roundtable.

➤ People Over Pollution

- People Over Pollution asked for help in getting back the air pollution monitor that was installed by South Coast AQMD at the 800 megawatt CPV Sentinel power plant. The monitor measured PM 2.5 on a continuous basis for 3 years. The group had expected the monitor to operate for 30 years.
- Link to South Coast AQMD's web page for the Sentinel monitoring project: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/library/air-quality-data-studies/special-monitoring/cpv-sentinel-monitoring>

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