



November 9, 2018

Climate

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) is meeting next week to adopt its proposed PM 2.5 State Implementation Plan (PM 2.5 SIP). The meeting will be held November 15th at 9:00 at the SJVAPCD office in Fresno, with video teleconferencing available at the Modesto and Bakersfield offices. The PM 2.5 SIP includes several provisions that will affect agricultural operations in the San Joaquin Valley. These provisions include both a goal and regulatory requirement if the goal of retiring 12,000 tier 0, tier 1, and tier 2 tractors by 2024 is not met. The first priority is to use funding incentives to assist in the replacement of 12,000 tractors, however a long-term funding source for this effort has not yet been identified.

The SJVAPCD released its draft SIP on August 31st and the document can be found [here](#). In addition to the tractor replacement provisions, the SIP also includes reductions of emissions through expansion of conservation management practices and replacement of agricultural pump engines with electric motors or tier 4 final engines. These reductions will be achieved through separate rulemakings that will occur after the PM 2.5 SIP is adopted. Farm Bureau will be attending the hearing to request a focus on incentives, rather than regulatory requirements. *Staff contact: Noelle Cremers at (916) 446-4647 or ncremers@cfbf.com.*

Industrial Hemp

The California Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation with the Industrial Hemp Advisory Board, has released a proposed regulation that would establish a cultivation/seed breeder registration fee of \$900/applicant to be paid to the Department and extended to the County Agricultural Commissioner for enforcement of the Industrial Hemp Law. Pursuant to CFBF's policies, Farm Bureau is reviewing said proposed regulation but will not be providing comment. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Fertilizers

The Department of Food and Agriculture's Fertilizer Research and Education Program has announced awarding \$1.1 million in grant funding to agricultural organizations and universities to improve application efficiency and manage environmental impacts of fertilizer use. Awarded projects include the following:

- UC Davis, Understanding Influences on Grower Decision-Making and Adoption of Improved Nitrogen Management Practices in the Southern San Joaquin Valley
- UC Davis, Improving Nitrate and Salinity Management Strategies for Almonds Grown under Micro-irrigation

- UC Desert Research and Extension Center, Assessing Drip Irrigation and Nitrogen Management of Fresh Onions Produced in California Low Desert
- Santa Cruz RCD, Promoting the Adoption of Soil Nitrogen Quick Tests by Spanish-Speaking Operators on Strawberry Ranches in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties
- University of Arizona, Efficient Water and Nitrogen Management Practices for Mixed Leafy Baby Green Vegetables in the Desert

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Land Use

The Strategic Growth Council (SGC) has announced the release of draft guidelines for the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC) which provides funding for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements and the development of agricultural land strategy plans by local officials. The draft guidelines can be reviewed [here](#). CFBF staff are reviewing the proposed changes for potential comment. Comments will be accepted until December 5th; there will be two public workshops at the following dates/times:

- November 20, 1:00pm, Sacramento-801 K Street, MS 14-15, Sacramento, CA
- November 29, 10:30am, Ventura-Location to be announced;

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The Department of Conservation is hosting its second brown bag discussion, as part of its larger Ag Talk Series, to discuss habitat restoration and creation on working lands. Speakers will include Chris Rose of the Solano Resource Conservation District. Farm Bureau staff will attend. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

The Bank of America, the UC Berkley School of Law's Center for Law, Energy and the Environment, and the UCLA School of Law's Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment will be hosting a legislative briefing regarding recommendations within a report developed in 2018 relative to the necessity for landscape level planning for the success of utility scale solar. Recommendations in the report include partnerships between business and governmental organizations, prioritization of mitigation and habitat protection to manage future impacts, and the necessity for such action to meet the State's new SB 100 (DeLeon, D-Los Angeles) goals, which requires 100% clean energy us by 2045. Farm Bureau will attend this legislative briefing. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Pesticides

The Department of Pesticide Regulation hosted a public hearing regarding a regulatory package identifying chlorpyrifos as a toxic air contaminant. Farm Bureau joined on a large coalition of agricultural and business organizations opposing such a classification and submitted a comment letter to that effect. DPR will close the comment period as of November 9th and will be reviewing and responding to public comments, including those submitted to Farm Bureau. The proposed regulatory package can be viewed [here](#). *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

The Department of Pesticide Regulation has released a draft policy regarding tribal consultation. This draft policy will merely guide DPR's actions, not obligate applicators to comply with broader consultation requirements, beyond current notification requirements. Farm Bureau staff will be reviewing this draft policy for potential comment due January 9. The proposed policy can be viewed [here](#). *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Proposition 65

Farm Bureau participated in a coalition meeting with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) staff and counsels regarding proposed regulatory changes to the provisions of Proposition 65, which would, in response to the *Beechnut* case, require the use of arithmetic to determine exposure rates rather than also geometric means, and clarify averaging must be done on individual lots rather than a product-wide basis. The proposed regulatory changes can be [here](#). Farm Bureau has joined a coalition of agricultural and business organizations in opposition to these regulatory changes and will provide a comment to that effect, with a comment period closing November 19th. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cbf.com or 916-446-4647.*