



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Procedure
7400-10

March 5, 1981

AIR POLLUTION ALERTS

This procedure is applicable to all campuses, centers, and sites. It prescribes the procedures required in the event of air pollution alerts.

FUNCTION

1. The District, upon being informed by the Air Pollution Control District (APCD) that there is a stage I alert, informs the General Services Office.
2. The General Services Manager (or designee) arranges for a communication system to notify all campuses, centers, and sites when there is a stage I alert.
3. The site chief administrator/designee restricts programs and activities in accordance with Section 3 and 4 under IMPLEMENTATION.
4. Definitions

Stage I Alert: Air quality consists of .20 parts pollutants per million (PPM). Expected frequency of occurrence is three to five times per year. Stage I alerts warrant curtailment of activities as outlined in Sections 3 and 4 below.

History of Stage I Alerts: During the past five years, San Diego County has experienced 25 days of Stage I alerts, 13 of which were on weekends. The peak concentration of pollutants generally occurs about 3 p.m., with high levels existing between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Stage II Alert: A "warning" stage involving .35 PPM, which is rarely experienced.

Stage III Alert: "Emergency stage" with .50 PPM or higher (only one day in 1968).

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Air quality forecasts may be obtained by calling 565-6626 (telephone tape for the metropolitan area). The forecast gives the anticipated starting time and the expected duration of the alert.

Current day forecast is updated by 9:15 - 9:30 a.m.

Next day forecast is available by 4:15 p.m. of the current day.

Indepth forecasts may be obtained by calling the air quality meteorologist t 565-3945.

2. Actual Alerts. APCD will notify the District General Services Manager who, in turn, will notify appropriate administrators.
3. Regular School Activities and Outdoor Practice Sessions (athletic teams).
 - a. Stage I Alert. During a Stage I alert, strenuous outdoor physical activities for all students shall be discontinued; activities of a less strenuous nature should be substituted. The intensity of the activity and its potential for increasing the respiration rate for an extended period may be the deciding factors for canceling certain activities. Heat and stress aggravate the condition, and the younger the child, the greater the risk of aggravating the upper respiratory system. Remaining indoors reduces exposure by as much as 50 percent. All students having respiratory difficulties and those who have notes from parents or doctors must be allowed to remain indoors. Students, when practical, should be allowed to remain indoors. Students shall be advised that participation in outdoor physical activities during the alert is not required.
 - b. Stage II. During a Stage II alert, students shall remain indoors for the duration of the alert; those with respiratory or heart problems should be monitored. (It is important to note that the APCD does not recommend closing schools or sending students home. This would aggravate the situation by sending students out in the middle of the episode.)
 - c. Stage III. During a stage III alert, District facilities will be closed to normal activities, certain personnel e.g. security, maintenance, communications, clerical etc. may be required to report/remain on duty.
4. Athletic Events. After notification of a Stage I alert, the site chief administrator or designee shall keep informed of the smog conditions (existing and forecast) by the APCD (telephone 565-6626) in case an athletic event need not be canceled. Outdoor events may be controlled when an alert exists or is forecast.
 - a. Forecast of Stage I Alert. An outdoor athletic event shall be canceled or rescheduled if the morning APCD announcement forecasts an alert covering the period of the event. The event may be rescheduled to start at the end of the alert.
 - b. Stage I Alert Occurrence. Athletic events shall be postponed or canceled if a Stage I alert exists at their start.

FORMS/REFERENCES

SDCCD Policy 7400