10+#LLC 08-AFC-8A One of Spages FCA HECA Project -20ublic Scoping Meeting for EIS OMMEN OVS ING PUBLIC SCOPIN Ġ MĖ COM Must be received on or before July 27, 201 printiclearly) Elease nd Jen ŶУ ONCEVINS P OSP DVO everything np mers ea a ma ant is Dermi at ed O be DU IPMAN, be so very very near ea uv avi MP 0 DUPV MPU eed hei oncern and ac California Energy Commission DOCKETED 08-AFC-8A FOATCHER Name: TN 70952 Mailing Address: MAY 22 2013 City: Sarah Goatcher State: PO Box 37 Tupman, CA 93276-0037 Zip: Phone: Email: Comment forms may be mailed to:

Mr. Fred Pozzuto U.S. Department of Energy National Energy Technology Laboratory 3610 Collins Ferry Road P.O. Box 880 Morgantown, WV 26507-0880 Comment forms may be sent by e-mail to: fred.pozzuto@netl.doe.gov Jennifer these 3 pages are Updates, I have sent to Mr. Pozzuto, the San Joaquin Mr. Pozzuto, the San Joaquin Valley Aiv Bollation Control District and to you.

-2the AMERICAN CITIZENS (I) consider this action by the FED.GOU. as a Terrorist threat to my life and property Building this plant in the name of progress, is a lie, it is in the name of Then our BLOOD will be on their hands. Thank You Jarah & Stoatcher PO BOX 3T Cupman, CA.932T6 Please fold here and tape before sending. P.S. And just for the record. Ves; lef it be known; throughout this land. Return Address: Sarah Goatcher PO Box 37 Tupman, CA 93276-0037 I have pleaded for our Lives! Attn: Fred Pozzuto U.S. Department of Energy National Energy Technology Laboratory

3610 Collins Ferry Road P.O. Box 880 Morgantown, WV 26507-0880

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A policeman stands guard at an apartment building that was destroyed when a fertilizer plant exploded, devastating West, Texas, last month.

Texas launches criminal probe into plant explosion

ANGELA K. BROWN AND RAMIT PLUSHNICK-MASTI The Associated Press

WACO, Texas — Texas law enforcement officials on Friday launched a criminal investigation into the massive fertilizer plant explosion that killed 14 people last month, after weeks of largely treating the blast as an industrial accident.

The announcement came the same day federal agents said they found bomb-making materials belonging to a paramedic who helped evacuate residents the night of the explosion. Bryce Reed was arrested early Friday on a charge of possessing a destructive device, but law enforcement officials said they had not linked the charge to the April 17 fire and blast at West Fertilizer Co.

"It is important to emphasize that at this point, no evidence has been uncovered to indicate any connection to the events surrounding the fire and subsequent explosion ... and the arrest of Bryce Reed by the ATF," the McLennan County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

Texas Department of Public Safety said earlier Friday that the agency had instructed the Texas Rangers and the sheriff's department to conduct a criminal probe into the explosion. The agencies will join the State Fire Marshall's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which have been leading the investigation and never ruled out that a crime may have been committed.

community of West, and we want to ensure that no stone goes unturned and that all the facts related to this incident are uncovered."

DPS Director Steven McCraw said.

Reed was in federal custody. A criminal complaint unsealed Friday afternoon said he was arrested after McLennan County deputies were called earlier this week to a home in Abbott, a town about five miles from West, and found bomb-making materials — including a galvanized metal pipe, canisters filled with fuses, a lighter, a digital scale and a variety of chemical powders.

> "After further investigation, it was determined that the resident had unwittingly taken possession of the components from Reed on April 26," says the complaint signed by ATF special agent Douglas Kunze.

> An ATF explosives specialist and a chemist examined the items and agreed the "combination of parts can be readily assembled into a destructive device," the complaint says.

> Reed made an initial appearance in federal court in Waco on Friday, but did not enter a plea.

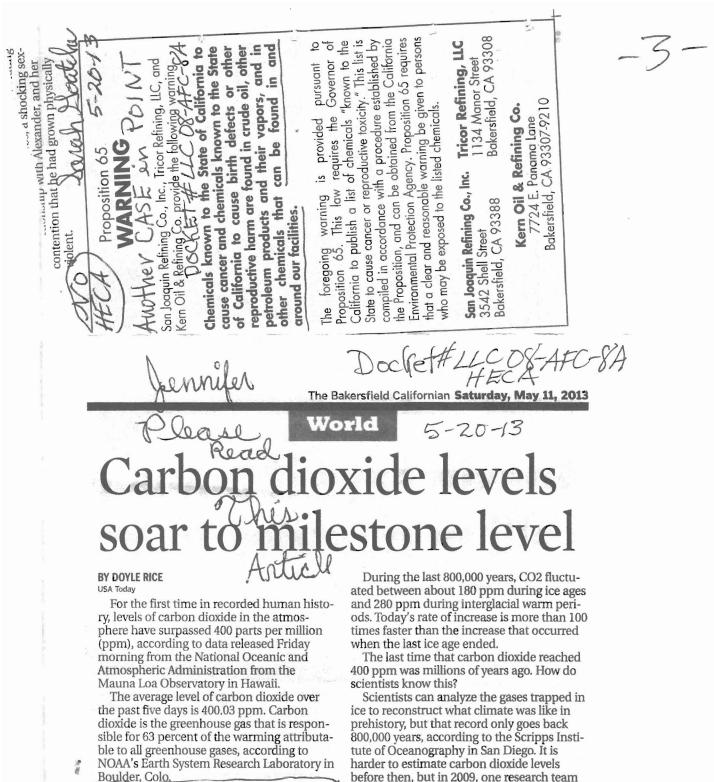
Officials have largely treated the West explosion as an industrial accident, though investigators still searching for the cause of a fire that preceded the blast have said they would treat the area as a crime scene until all possibilities were considered.

The State Fire Marshal's Office released a statement Friday saying it decided to continue pursuing a criminal probe because roughly 250 leads have developed and more than 400 people have been interviewed. Authorities have focused on ammonium

nitrate, a chemical commonly used as a fertil-

izer, but that also can be explosive in the right

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Increasing amounts of carbon dioxide and other gases caused by the burning of the oil, gas and coal that power our world are enhancing the natural "greenhouse effect," causing the planet to warm to levels that climate scientists say can't be linked to natural forces.

CO2 levels were around 280 ppm prior to the Industrial Revolution, when we first began releasing large amounts into the atmosphere through the burning of fossil fuels.

That increase is not a surprise to scientists," said NOAA senior scientist Pieter Tans of the Earth System Research Lab. "The evidence is conclusive that the strong growth of global CO2 emissions from the burning of coal, oil, and natural gas is driving the acceleration."

before then, but in 2009, one research team reported in the journal Nature Geoscience that it had found evidence of CO2 levels that ranged between 365 and 415 ppm, roughly 4.5 million years ago.

They based their finding on the analysis of carbon isotopes present in compounds made by tiny marine phytoplankton preserved in ancient ocean sediments," according to Scripps.

Crossing the 400 ppm threshold is more than a new data point about greenhouse gas levels in our atmosphere," says World Wildlife Fund chief scientist Jon Hoekstra. "It's a sobering reminder that the planet we know today will not be the planet we know tomorrow.

5-20-13

Message from the PROBLE/ Air Pollution Control Officer

To the residents of the San Joaquin Valley:

Twenty years have passed since the eight counties in the Valley joined to form the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District in 1992. This unification was rooted in the recognition by Valley residents and policy makers that air pollution does not respect political boundaries, and that the enormity of air-quality challenges requires pooling of our resources Valley-wide.

hearlennifet, Docket FLC 08-AFE-8A

In the last 20 years, we have faced daunting challenges that, in any other place, would be overwhelming. On one hand, the Valley's geography, topography and climate conditions demand more from the Valley in the form of measures to reduce air pollution. On the other hand, the Valley's resources and capacity to absorb regulatory costs are limited due to the region's economic disadvantages. Designing effective programs that balance these competing interests demands a great deal of innovation, cutting edge creativity, and a lot of hard work. But the Valley air basin is a land of incredible abundance and true wealth that is mirrored in the spirit of its people.

Since 1992, Valley businesses have invested billions of dollars in reducing air pollution, leading to real and measurable improvements in quality of life for Valley residents. Valley residents are doing more to help reduce air pollution by making air-friendly choices as they go about their day-to-day lives. We have seen significant improvements in the Valley's air quality, and clean-air strategies designed and implemented in the Valley now serve as the model for the rest of the state and the nation. The progress we've made together over the past two decades is unmistakable: an 80 percent reduction in air pollution from Valley businesses, the cleanest winters and summers on record, the attainment of an important air-quality standard for particulate matter (PM10), significant reductions in the number of days with unhealthy air quality, and being closer than ever to meeting tough new health standards for ozone. These are real victories and they should be celebrated.

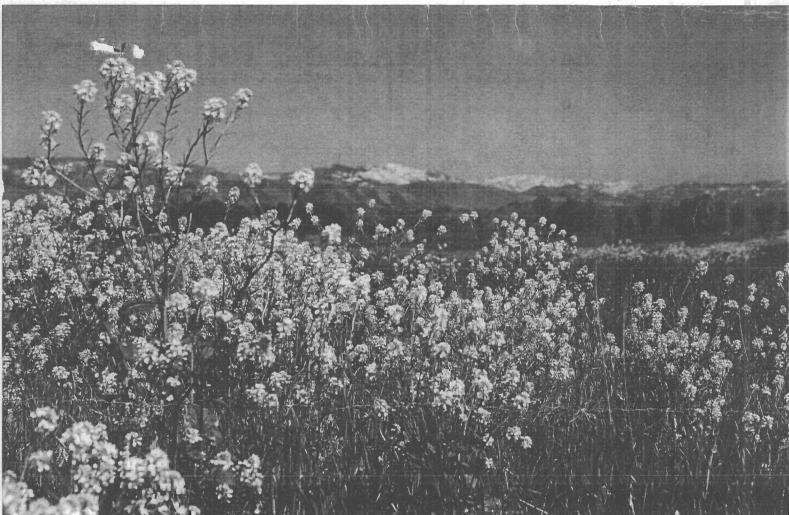
As we celebrate the Valley's accomplishments with this 20-year milestone, we have to remember that, in many ways, we're just beginning to tap the surface of the incredible wealth of resources that our region possesses: its people, their perseverance and their unshakeable belief in a healthier future. Much more needs to be done as we pursue our vision of healthy air for every single Valley resident. As we move forward, we must continue to find creative solutions that improve public health and preserve the Valley's economic well-being.

Given the outstanding partnership and resulting successes between the public, business and industry and the Air District in our first 20 years, we are truly gratified and fully confident that we will achieve the totality of our goals in the years to come.

Sough Salled well; all of these statements are Sough Salled very well meant: I'm sure; but the pollution and lack of proven safety, Seved Sadredin and misuses F 4,600 gallons of water Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer Eminute 24/7 We are constantly reminded to Conserve water Justify this misuse! This HECA PLANTing a Dangerous and Flithy, wasteful creation of that of Devil GREED ncerely Sarah Loat



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2012-13 Edition





Air Monitoring

The Valley Air District operates an extensive network of air-quality monitors to support its mission of improving air quality and protecting public health. The District uses hourly readings from its realtime monitors to generate a daily Air Quality Index (AQI) forecast for each Valley county. The AQI communicates the state of air quality to Valley residents so they can keep air quality in mind as the plan their activities. The District also rigorously analyzes collected air quality data to help chart the future path to ozone and PM2.5 attainment.

#LLC 08 APC 8A

Leveraging recent advancements in technology, the District will continue to expand the use of automated monitoring equipment and remote connection systems to allow for remote diagnostics and monitoring equipment repairs. This results in increased efficiency and reduced travel to distant monitoring stations. The District has added, or is in the process of adding, several new monitoring stations to its network to address federal requirements, to improve modeling and forecasting analyses, and to provide additional air quality information to Valley residents. The new Bakersfield Municipal Airport station replaced the Bakersfield station formerly located on Golden State Avenue. The District is also in the process of installing four new near-roadway air monitoring stations in response to new federal mandates. These stations will be located in Fresno, Bakersfield, Modesto and Stockton.

Air Monitoring Sites in Operation August 2012

eilineroury & comes ILA DROAS SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY KINGS COUNTY 20 Hanford: F, G, P, M Hazelton: G. M. P. F. T ly from ▶ 21 Corcoran: G, M, P, F Wagner/Holt: P Other1: Tracy: G, M, P, F Tachi Yokut Tribe Manteca: P, F, M 22 Santa Rosa Rancheria: G. M. P. STANISLAUS COUNTY Modesto: G, M, P, F **TULARE COUNTY** ▶6 Turlock: G, M, P, F ▶ 23 Visalia Airport: M MERCED COUNTY 24 Church Street: G, M, P, F M Street: P, F ▶ 25 Porterville: G, F, M >7 11 Coffee St: F, G, M Other² ▶ 8 ▶ 26 Kaweah: A, G, M 9 MADERA COUNTY 27 Ash Mountain: A, G, M, F Madera City: G, P, F, M 10 19 14 ▶ 10 Madera-Pump Yard: G, M 13 **KERN COUNTY** Other1: > 28 Shafter: G.M. Chukchansi Indians > 29 Oildale: G, M, P. 26 ▶ 11 Picayune Rancheria: F 30 California Avenue; A, G, M, P, F, T 27 22 20 23 **FRESNO COUNTY** ▶ 31 Bakersfield-Muni: G, P, F, M Planz Road: F ▶ 12 Tranquility: G, F, M 1.IV ▶ 13 Sierra Sky Park: G, M 33 Edison G.M 34 Arvin-Di-Giorgio: ▶ 14 Clovis: G, M, P, F ▶ 15 Fresno-Garland G.M.P.F.T.N ▶ 35 Maricopa: G,M -▶ 16 Fresno-Pacific: F ▶ 36 Lebec: F.M ► b7 Drummond: G, P, M Where ▶ 18 Parlier: G, M 19 Huron: F. M MONITORING DESIGNATIONS MONITORING OPERATION A Acid Deposition Sites operated by the District Fine Particulate (PM2.5) Sites operated by the District & CARB Gaseous Sites operated by CARB Sites operated by other agencies Other¹ Tribal Other² National Park Service Toxins

2012-13 Annual Report < San Joaquin Valley Air Politition Control District



ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS When violations of rules and regulations are discovered, the District delivers an appropriate level of enforcement action to ensure an expeditious return to compliance, and assesses fines to deter future violations. Disputed cases are generally handled in-house and settled through a mutual settlement process. On the rare occasion that a case cannot be settled through the mutual settlement process, the case may be transferred to District Counsel for more formal action. In fiscal year 2011-12, the District processed nearly 2,900 issued notices, transferred 296 cases to District Counsel, and collected approximately \$5 million in settlements.

HEARING BOARDS The Hearing Boards are quasi-judicial panels that act independently of the District. They are authorized by state law to provide temporary relief from District rules and regulations if strict conditions prescribed under the California Health and Safety Code are met. Any excess emissions associated with the temporary relief granted by the Hearing Boards represent only a very small fraction of the Valley's total emission inventory and cannot by law be likely to interfere with the attainment and maintenance of health-based air quality standards or cause a public nuisance. In fiscal year 2011-12, 114 variance petitions were heard at 55 hearings. Comment by Kerry Drake Associate director, Air Division, Region 9, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

On behalf of Deborah Jordan, director, Air Division, Region 9, U.S. EPA

IN YOUR VIEW, WHAT IS/ARE THE DISTRICT'S MOST SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT(S) IN THE PAST 20 YEARS?

The District's most significant achievements have been working with EPA to develop approvable plans to attain the health-based standards for PM10, PM 2.5, and ozone in the face of adverse meteorology and geography and with sources not traditionally included in air quality plans across the country, such as agriculture.

SOME OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF WHICH YOU ARE PROUDEST IN THE VALLEY'S PROGRESS TO CLEAN AIR.

- *Developing reasonable yet best-in-the-nation controls for dust and ozone pollutants from agricultural sources.
- * Developing controls for residential wood burning because of the tremendous positive impact on public health, despite the (initial) unpopularity of the program.
- * Developing the first indirect source review rule in the nation.
- * Building substantial incentive programs and a technology-advancement program to accelerate progress toward clean air.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE DISTRICT.

There are many, but the one that stands out the most is when EPA was able to approve, for the first time, a San Joaquin Valley air quality plan. That was the PM10 plan, which ultimately resulted in attainment of that standard.

WHERE YOU SEE THE VALLEY AND ITS AIR QUALITY ISSUES 20 YEARS FROM NOW?

The San Joaquin Valley is a jewel of the nation, feeding us all. We see the Valley continuing to use its amazing resources to innovate and develop new, creative and economically feasible ways to protect the public health of its residents, and provide for a sustainable and prosperous future.

The Bakersfield Californian Monday, April 29, 2013

DisputeEndPhone 395-7399fax 395-7380email opinion@bakersfield.com

Community Voices What can we do when evil is convinced it's utterly righteous?

Brik McDill

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ow can we possibly wrap the brain around senseless bombings and creativity, the disappearance of cultural

blinders, seeing the world from higher and clearer summits; toward the negative, some experience drift, fear, uncertainty, confusion, panic, reactive rigidity, banging up against and striking out or bases of clar names the drift of the second origin, expect that our ways and thoughts are as valued by others as we value them ourselves. There are those who become unhinged when other ways and thoughts filter onto the street and into the air and are seen as dangerous, wicked, to be beaten back by all means necessary.

That's where the worm turns. Resistance to change is but one deeply rooted part of our human makeup; one element among others in our intricately clinical and forensic psychology.

NOAN LOMM

there's a message in there someplace.

Letters

One surefire way to inspire Senate on guns

had a bit of a chuckle while reading the April 25 letter "Sure bet to prompt gun control." The writer posed the question of what might happen should an armed psycho turn his madness against the U.S. Senate. Fortunately for our senators, the writer forgot one thing: the Capitol Police. Those are the uniformed men and women who are stationed at the entries, exits and around the front steps of the Capitol building, and who are armed with real assault rifles — not the semi-automatic replicas that civilians can own.

Since Washington, D.C., has more agencies involved with law enforcement than any other place on Earth, I seriously doubt anybody openly carrying any type of firearm could get within 10 miles of the Capitol. However, *if* we got rid of the Capitol Police, and *if* we got rid of all

HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER

Letters to the editor should address a single topic in no more than 250 words and be signed by just one person; they are subject to editing for length and clarity and must include the author's true first and last names, address and telephone number. The preferred method of submission is by email: opinion@ bakersfield.com. Letters also may be malled to Opinion Section, The Bakersfield Californian, P.O. Bin 440, Bakersfield, CA 93302.

that other law enforcement, and *if* somebody were still psycho enough to turn their madness against the Senate, then yes, the Senate would pass legislation, as the previous writer put it, "quicker than you can say 'NRA'' — it would immediately legislate an armed police force around the Capitol. I think

We're not guinea pigs

In light of the recent explosion in West, Texas, I believe the HECA project should fold up, be abolished and sent back to New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts, where it originated. It is an experimental plant that has not yet been properly safety tested. Their operation will be much bigger than the operation in Texas. I fear that an explosion could trigger

catastrophic damage in the Elk Hills oil fields and annihilate the town of Tupman. It could also trigger a blow-up of a propane manufacturing plant that is less than a half mile from Tupman, thus damaging the California Aqueduct in the horrible process. I don't believe we should be their guinea pigs!

Sarah Goatcher Tupman

Jim Dunaway

Bakersfield

Our View | Hits & Misses **Kern on brink** of another air milestone

HIT: For decades, Kern County has been at the center of some of the most dramatic and significant moments in aerospace history. Remember the crowds, by some estimates as many as 300,000, packed into the Mojave Desert for the early space shuttle landings? Or the breathtaking spectacle in 1986 of Dick Rutan and leana Yeager piloting the Voyager, designed by Dick's brother, Burt, in the world's first around-the-world, nonstop flight without refueling?

MISS: Our privacy isn't worth much

What's your online privacy worth to you? Apparently, not much more than a merchandise discount. Or a T-shirt. A study by the USC Annenberg Center for the Digital Future and Bovitz Inc., reveals that an alarming number of online consumers are more than happy to give up personal data — and presumably allow businesses to do what they choose with the data — in exchange for some tangible reward.

The study showed that 40 percent of Internet users 35 and older say they are willing to give up personal data to companies so long as they get something in return. Privacy comes especially cheap to so-called "millennials" people in the 18-34 age range. An astounding 51 percent are willing to part with personal details in exchange for a ball cap.

HIT: Five of a kind at W.'s gala

A rare political sight greeted us last Thursday when the five living U.S. presidents got together for a festive, rather than tragic, occasion. President Obama and former Presidents Jinmy Carter, Bill Clinton and George H.W. Bush, along with their first ladies, joined George W. Bush for the dedication in Dallas of the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum.

The Bush Library includes a museum and policy institute. It features the largest digital holdings of the 13 presidential libraries.

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