



The Cotton Chronicle

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August 2016

Volume 26 Issue 8

Industry Calendar

August 31

Supima & Western
Cotton Shippers
Annual Meetings—
Harris Ranch

September 14

Board Meeting—
Fresno

Visit web calendar
for details

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Association Pushes Back on 1 Mile Buffer Zone

The **California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations (CCGGA)** participated in a meeting of agricultural organizations and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) opposing the idea of a one mile buffer zone for pesticide and fumigation applications being pushed by activist groups including the United Farm Workers (UFW) and the Pesticide Action Network of North America (PANNA). The concept of a one mile buffer zone on all pesticide and fumigation applications has been raised in recent months by the activists in the CDPR Initiative to address "Pesticides Use Near Schools". The UFW and PANNA have submitted several form letters and postcards. To combat that effort, CCGGA along with the **Western Agricultural Processors Association (WAPA), the Nisei Farmers League, California Fresh Fruit Association, California Citrus Mutual, California Agricultural Aircraft Association, and the Western Plant Health Association** met with **CDPR Director Brian Leahy** to express our frustration with the effort and call for CDPR to continue to use sound science when making regulatory decisions on buffer zones. **CCGGA President/CEO Roger Isom** presented **Director Leahy** with over 500 agricultural industry letters from actual California farmers, processors and allied industry calling for CDPR to make policy decisions based on science. If you haven't sent in a letter, we strongly encourage you to do so. The time is now for your voice to be heard!

Association Remains Engaged on LSI/TRU Survey Process

The Association continues to engage with the Air Resources Board on the Large Spark Ignition



2016 CCGA Distinguished Service Award
Winner Dewey Wright

Rule (aka Forklift Rule) and Transportation Refrigeration Rule. To remain exempt from the reporting and labeling mandate of the LSI Rule, the agriculture industry will conduct a voluntary survey that will cover issues of fleet size, fleet composition, ownership, TRU technology, TRU/eTRU infrastructure and economic barriers. The Association urged that anonymity of survey responses is critical for engagement from the industry, as a result CCGGA will distribute, collect and aggregate all surveys and turn in acceptable data to the Air Resources Board. We strongly urge industry participation as this will help our Associations understand technologies already implemented, barriers that prevent implementation of alternative technology. Additionally, CCGGA and other commodity groups conveyed to ARB that many of our members who this would impact are about to begin harvesting, hulling/shelling, processing, etc. and that the

proposed timeline would not be suitable. We were successful in achieving an extended timeline and will not begin the survey process until the season slows down towards the end of the year. Stay tuned for more updates as this time approaches!

Temperance Flat Project Makes Significant Step Forward

A partnership between San Joaquin Valley and federal agencies aimed at moving toward development of additional San Joaquin River water storage became reality this past month during a signing ceremony overlooking Millerton Lake and Friant Dam northeast of Fresno. Representatives of the **San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority** and the **Bureau of Reclamation** signed a Memorandum of

Understanding (MOU) to coordinate and complete feasibility studies of the proposed **Temperance Flat Dam and**



Reservoir project. Tulare County Supervisor Steve Worthley, Authority President, and Reclamation Deputy Director of the Mid-Pacific Region Federico Barajas signed the MOU. The partnership will allow communities and organizations throughout the San Joaquin Valley to participate in completing the studies of a new dam and reservoir on the San Joaquin River upstream of Friant Dam. The project would permit capture and storage of high flows in above-average water years and high flow events. Existing Millerton Lake's comparatively small capacity of 520,500 acre-feet is frequently exceeded by inflows from the river's Sierra Nevada watershed. "I'm pleased to sign this Memorandum of Understanding between the Bureau of Reclamation and the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority," said Deputy Director Barajas. The proposed project's site, several miles upstream from Friant Dam, was the originally proposed location for a Millerton area reservoir in 1930. The present Friant Dam location was selected to reduce construction costs. The proposed site is within the upper reaches of Millerton Lake. If authorized by Congress and jointly funded, the facilities would be part of the Federal Central Valley Project. As conceived, the new reservoir would create approximately 1,200,000 acre-feet of additional water storage to supplement Millerton Lake's current capacity.

"This project would permit us to store more of the high flows now being lost to flood releases when Millerton storage runs out of room," Worthley said. "Being able to capture and hold high flows until there is conveyance and percolation capacity available for moving the water to distant aquifer recharge and banking facilities is critical for improving the valley's groundwater management." Speaking at the press conference, the **Association's President/CEO Roger Isom** stated "This has been a long time coming. I brought my shovel and concrete boots, let's get to work! The Assembly members here today and agriculture worked hard to get the Water Bond passed, so let's make this happen!"

MOU Signed-Now Real Work Begins on Temperance Flat

The dirt isn't moving just yet, but the real work on the Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir is now underway. With the recent signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the **San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority** and the **Bureau of Reclamation**, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is now meeting on a regular basis to prepare the necessary application for the Proposition 1 Water Bond Funding. Critical work has to go into this effort including determining all of the different components in the application package (i.e. dam project, groundwater recharge, ecosystem restoration, etc.). The Association has a seat at the table with the Association's **President/CEO Roger Isom** appointed to the TAC. The TAC, which meets monthly, is chaired by **Chris White, General Manager of the Central California Irrigation District**, and the **Vice Chair is Julia Berry, Director of Water and Natural Resources for Madera County**. The TAC is charged with assisting the Authority in meeting its man-



Recent TAC Meeting discussing Feasibility Study for Temperance Flat

date to solicit grants from the Water Bond or similar state and federal programs or funds. The TAC will also provide ongoing guidance and expertise on the disbursement and expenditure of these funds.

CARB Releases Final Sustainable Freight Plan

In response to an Executive Order issued last year by Governor Brown, state agency leaders released the **California**

Sustainable Freight Action Plan, a comprehensive document that serves as a blueprint for transforming the state's multi-billion dollar freight transport system. This new plan affects every facet of transportation in the state from rail, trucks and forklifts to fuel, transportation refrigeration units (TRUs) and ships.



From the Association's perspective the plan has improved in that it now recognizes and relies heavily upon incentives to help fund many of the new technologies that companies will be implementing. "We listened to stakeholders, incorporated changes, and we will continue to consult with them as we put the Plan into action" said **California Air Resources Board Chair Mary D. Nichols**. While it has improved, major impacts still remain or are yet to be fleshed out. Developed in response to Governor Brown's Executive Order B-32-15, which calls for a single integrated action plan for California, the Action Plan was prepared by the California State Transportation Agency, California Environmental Protection Agency, California Natural Resources Agency, California Air Resources Board, California Department of Transportation, California Energy Commission and the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, with broad stakeholder input. The Executive Order directs the state agencies to pursue a shared vision to "improve freight efficiency, transition to zero-emission technologies and increase the competitiveness of California's freight system." The Action Plan includes a long term-2050 vision and guiding principles for California's future freight transport system along with these targets for 2030:

- ◆ **Improve freight system efficiency 25 percent by 2030**
- ◆ **Deploy over 100,000 zero-emission vehicles/equipment and maximize near-zero by 2020**
- ◆ **Foster future economic growth within the freight and goods movement industry.**

The plan also identifies opportunities to leverage State freight transport system investments, pinpoints actions to initiate over the next five years to meet goals, and lists possible pilot projects to achieve concrete progress in the near term. Some of the areas where our members will be impacted include:

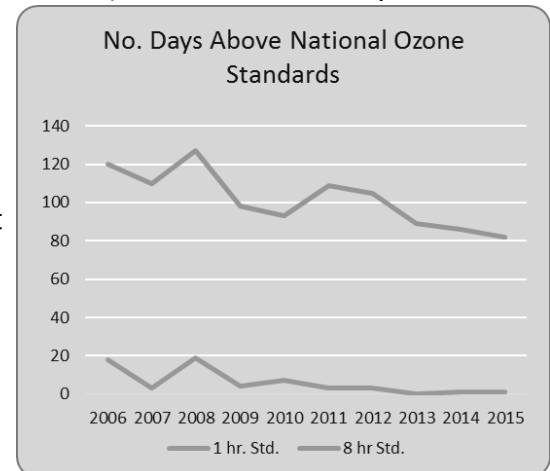
- ◆ **Zero emission technologies, such as electric forklifts**

- ◆ **Lower emission trucks (beyond the current ARB Truck Rule)**
- ◆ **Transportation Refrigeration Units (TRUs)**
- ◆ **Freight Hubs (could include our operations where trucks come and go)**

Over the next several months, the Association will be heavily involved in this issue as we work to push for incentives and voluntary approaches to this broad regulatory effort. Next steps for state agencies will include continued work with federal, state, industry, labor, regional, local and environmental and community-based partners to refine and prioritize the strategies and actions outlined in the Action Plan. The state agencies will also create collaborative stakeholder working groups on competitiveness, system efficiency, workforce developments, and regulatory and permitting process improvements. Regular California Freight Advisory Committee meetings will continue, and by July 2017, the state agencies will establish work plans for chosen pilot projects.

Some Good News – EPA Finds that San Joaquin Valley Meets 1 Hr. Ozone Standard!

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that the San Joaquin Valley nonattainment area **"has attained the 1-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard"**. This determination is based on sufficient, quality-assured, and certified data for the 2012-2014 period. Ozone data collected in 2015 shows continued attainment of the standard in the San Joaquin Valley. EPA noted that preliminary data for 2015 was consistent with continued attainment in the San Joaquin Valley. The Valley covers approximately 23,000 square miles and includes all of Fresno, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare counties, as well as the western half of Kern County. EPA agrees with reports and associated analyses, submitted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District ("District"), and finds the Valley has attained the 1-hour ozone standard. While this is great news, unfortunately it does not in any way change the air quality regulations related to ozone. That is because EPA has



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adopted an 8 hour ozone standard that is much lower and much more difficult to achieve. Nonetheless, as trucks, tractors and off-road equipment are being replaced ozone measurements have dropped considerably in the last ten years as air quality has drastically improved!

62nd Supima Annual Meeting - Wednesday, August 31

Supima looks forward to updating the membership and

providing an overview of Supima's current and future activities. The Western Cotton Shippers Association (WCSA) will be holding their 33rd Annual Conference in conjunction with the Supima Annual Meeting. The WCSA meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. prior to Supima's meeting. The Supima meeting is scheduled from 11:00 a.m.—12:15 p.m., and will be followed by a buffet lunch.

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62ND ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2016 - HARRIS RANCH INN, COALINGA, CA
REGISTRATION: 9:00 A.M. / MEETING: 11:00 A.M.

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Email form to: nancy@supima.com or fax form to: (602) 792-6004 by Friday August 26, 2016