



Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District
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MEDIA RELEASE

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POIRIEZ NAMED MDAQMD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Victorville – The Governing Board of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District has appointed Brad Poiriez Executive Director of the High Desert’s regulatory air agency. Poiriez will replace retiring MDAQMD head Eldon Heaston, who is set to leave the District at the end of June.

Poiriez – who will also serve as the MDAQMD’s Air Pollution Control Officer – will report directly to the District’s Governing Board under the terms of the four year contract, which begins July 25. Poiriez will be responsible for enforcing the District’s rules and regulations, enforcing health and safety provisions and state programs, running the District’s day to day operations and supervising the MDAQMD’s 41 employees.

While Poiriez may be new to the MDAQMD, he is no stranger to air quality regulation, having served as Air Pollution Control Officer for the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District since 2008 and as an employee of the El Centro-based air district for over twenty-two years. While at ICAPCD, Poiriez was responsible for the agency’s day to day operations, including supervising twenty staff members in the engineering, planning, compliance, grants and air monitoring divisions.

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Poiriez received his Bachelor of Science degree in Health Studies from Eastern Illinois University in 1990 and has worked in the environmental field for over twenty-three years. Prior to joining the ICAPCD, Poiriez was employed by the Peoria County Environmental Health Department in Peoria Illinois.

Poiriez is the past U.S. co-chair of the Imperial Valley/Mexicali Region Air Quality Task Force for Border 2012 and has worked extensively on the newly-proposed Border 2020 program. He has been instrumental in getting industry representatives and the community involved and participating in developing methods to improve air quality in Imperial County. More recently, Poiriez was selected to a Technical Consultative Group to work on a trilateral project under the Commission for Environmental Cooperation to address transportation emissions at land Ports-of-Entry on U.S. borders with both Mexico and Canada, and is also currently on the Board of Directors of the Western Regional Air Partnership. He has been a member of the MDAQMD-led California Desert Air Working Group for more than 16 years and a Director for the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association for the past eight years, serving as President in 2013.

“Brad’s extensive knowledge of regional air quality issues combined with his years of experience brokering common-sense, clean air solutions at the local and international level make him an exceptional choice to lead the MDAQMD,” commented MDAQMD Governing Board Chair/San Bernardino County First District Supervisor Robert Lovingood.

Poiriez has been happily married to his wife, Bonnie, an elementary school teacher, for 23 years. The Poiriez’ have two children – Bradley, a recent San Diego State University graduate and Baylee, who will be entering her junior year of high school this fall.

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According to Poiriez, he is very enthusiastic about leading the MDAQMD in the years to come. “I am grateful for the opportunity to lead this great organization and look forward to working with the District’s dynamic Board and its dedicated employees to continue the progress that’s been made towards protecting the High Desert’s legendary air quality, and to collaborating with local businesses and government for the benefit of the region’s enhanced economic development,” commented Poiriez.

The MDAQMD is the local air pollution control agency for San Bernardino County’s High Desert region and the Palo Verde Valley portion of Riverside County. The District is responsible for regulating stationary air pollution sources and implementing state and federal air quality rules and regulations within its 20,000-plus square mile jurisdiction, which is home to over 550,000 residents.

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