

NEWS RELEASE

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Nov. 14, 2019

CALPORTLAND, MDAQMD TEAM AGAIN FOR MORE AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

Oro Grande cement plant uses grant funding to purchase new low-emission drill

ORO GRANDE — With the help of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD), CalPortland Cement is continuing its campaign of replacing its equipment with low-emission versions to improve the High Desert’s air quality.

MDAQMD awarded a \$175,000 grant to help the Oro Grande cement producer replace a 1999 TEREX Bore/Drill rig with a 2019 Caterpillar MD2650 Drill. The new drill expects to see a 76% reduction on average in nitrogen oxides (NOx), reactive organic gases (ROG) and particulate matter (PM) combined.

“CalPortland continues to be a community partner that is aggressive in their efforts to reduce emissions,” said Brad Poiriez, MDAQMD’s Executive Director, “and we hope they continue to serve as an example to others to explore the options the District can provide in creating a healthier environment for our residents.”

The grant funding comes from the Carl Moyer Program, which provides monetary grants to private companies and public agencies to clean up their heavy-duty engines beyond what’s required by law through retrofitting, repowering or replacing their engines with newer and cleaner ones.

“CalPortland continues to seek out opportunities to save energy and lower our carbon footprint by reducing emissions in the communities where we operate,” said Bruce Shafer, Senior Vice President Cement Operations, CalPortland. “Partnering with the MDAQMD has allowed us to replace older technology with a more efficient drill that significantly reduces emissions.”

MDAQMD is the air pollution control authority and permitting agency for the High Desert portion of San Bernardino County and the Palo Verde Valley in Riverside County. It’s governed by a board of 13 members representing nine incorporated municipalities and two counties within its boundaries. Visit mdaqmd.ca.gov or follow @MDAQMD on social media.

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MOJAVE DESERT AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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