

VALLEY AIR NEWS

January 2023



Transforming Modesto Project Nears Completion

This past week, Valley Air District Governing Board members celebrated with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and Frito-Lay to announce the near completion of the company's Modesto, California, facility's transformation into a first-of-its-kind showcase for sustainable manufacturing, warehousing, and distribution technologies. The project was started in 2019 and supported by the California Climate Investments initiative, in conjunction with the District and CARB, to demonstrate the sustainability benefits of zero-emission (ZE) and near zero-emission (NZE) technologies.

The transformation at the Modesto facility is a template for and can help accelerate the continued proliferation of large-scale commercialization of ZE and NZE technologies at freight facilities and warehouses, magnifying emissions reduction benefits on a broad scale.

The upgrades in Modesto employ the latest in sustainable technology to reduce environmental impact, while also offering employees on-the-job training to maintain and operate the new high-tech equipment. These updates include the replacement of diesel fleet assets with ZE and NZE alternatives, fueling and charging infrastructure for the new fleet, and on-site renewable energy generation and storage. In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, this project reduces criteria and toxic pollutants emissions and helps the Valley meet federal goals for air pollution that in turn improve public health.



Two new county supervisors join District's Governing Board

During the first Governing Board meeting of 2023, the District welcomed two new members Robert 'Bobby' Macaulay and Rusty Robinson.

Bobby Macaulay, an Oakhurst native, is the new Madera County District 5 Supervisor and replaces Tom Wheeler, who retired and previously served on the District's Governing Board.

Rusty Robinson is the new Kings County District 4 Supervisor. The third-generation businessman is a lifetime resident of Kings County and replaces Craig Pedersen on the District's Governing Board.

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