



NEWS RELEASE

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District
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AIR DISTRICT AWARDS \$121K TO BLYTHE FARMING COMPANY

DeConinck Farms reducing emissions with new equipment partially funded by MDAQMD grant

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLYTHE — The air quality in the Palo Verde Valley is set to benefit greatly thanks, in large part, to a grant the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) awarded to a local farming company.

DeConinck Farms was the recipient of the \$121,205 Carl Moyer Program funds to help purchase a 2018 MFWR 9960 Windrower (208 horsepower). The new equipment replaces the company's 2005 Hesston 9260 Windrower (185 horsepower) and will effectively reduce emissions up to 94 percent in comparison.

The Carl Moyer Program seeks to improve the quality of the air in the High Desert by funding local, cost-effective projects to upgrade heavy-duty diesel equipment using proven technologies and procedures that reduce emissions. MDAQMD's award to DeConinck Farms funded nearly 80 percent of the new equipment's cost.

With more than 100,000 acres of agricultural land in the area, efforts to reduce emissions from farming equipment are a vital step in improving and protecting air quality in the Riverside County portion of MDAQMD's jurisdiction for current and future generations.

"DeConinck Farms is an important partner in our mission to reduce emissions in the Palo Verde Valley," said Brad Poiriez, MDAQMD Executive Director. "We believe this is a great step in improving air quality for Blythe residents."

Since the MDAQMD began its participation in the program, the District has awarded more than \$13 million to eligible projects. The Carl Moyer Program is continually open until funding is depleted.

For more information on grant opportunities through MDAQMD, contact Grants Specialist Jorge Camacho at 760-245-1661, ext. 2020 or jcamacho@mdaqmd.ca.gov.

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 www.mdaqmd.ca.gov or follow us on social media @MDAQMD.

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