Wildfires, Strong Winds Across Southland Creating Unhealthful Air Quality

moke and ash from numerous wildfires along with dust raised by strong winds created unhealthful air quality throughout much of the Southland at the end of October. Air quality officials advised all residents and school officials to curtail outdoor activities if they could see or smell smoke or see falling ash. Wildfire smoke contains numerous pollutants including microscopic particles known as PM10 and PM2.5, which reached unhealthy levels in numerous areas directly impacted by smoke as well as high-wind areas.

In areas with unhealthy air quality, everyone was encouraged to discontinue prolonged, vigorous outdoor exercise lasting longer than one hour. Air quality officials urged everyone to take precautions to protect themselves from the adverse health effects of wildfire smoke and recommended that:

- Everyone avoid all vigorous exertion, indoors or out;
- Residents with heart disease, respiratory diseases

including asthma, as well as the elderly and children remain indoors;

- Keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot inside. In these cases, seek alternate shelter; and
- Turn on an air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to minimize outdoor smoke entering the house.

For more tips on avoiding health impacts from the smoke, see SCAQMD's website, www.aqmd.gov.

For further information, please contact Anupom Ganguli at (909) 396-3185.



ollowing a landmark agreement reached by air quality officials, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) approved the Southland's far-reaching clean air plan – including aggressive measures to accelerate and clean up mobile sources – to meet a federal clean air deadline by 2015.

"We commend the Air Resources Board for taking bold steps to address the Southland's severe air pollution problem," said William A. Burke, Ed.D., Chairman of the SCAQMD. "Now that we have consensus on what needs to be done, we need to put the plan into action."

CARB approved the SCAQMD's 2007 Air Quality Management Plan – a detailed strategy that outlines how the region will meet federal health-based standards for PM2.5 (fine particulate) by 2015 and 8-hour ozone by 2024.

Other measures include a plan by CARB to modernize heavy-duty truck fleets; asking EPA to reduce locomotive emissions or provide funding to achieve equivalent reduc-

tions; and installation of pollution control devices on Metrolink commuter trains to cut particulate matter emissions.

The plan has been adopted as part of the State Implementation Plan which now must be submitted to EPA for its review and approval.

For further information, contact Elaine Chang at (909) 396-3186.

Air Pollution Hearing Held in Inland Empire

n October, Senator Barbara Boxer conducted an air quality hearing at the San Bernardino County Government Center to call attention to the harmful contaminants emitted by diesel engines, and their human impact.

Local officials and medical experts testified on the health risks of breathing fine particulate matter, which is thought to cause premature death. "What I'm looking at is not only the regional impacts of trucks and diesel exhaust, but also the health risks of proximity to diesel and the decisions we can make to minimize that health risk," said Penny Newman, Executive Director of the Inland Empire based Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCAEJ) who testified at the hearing. She further added, "To cut respiratory problems caused by fine particulate matter, new housing needs to be built at least 1,000 feet away from warehouses, freeways, and truck and train terminals."

Senator Boxer stated that she will pressure the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to adopt stricter standards for limiting the fine particulate matter coming from diesel trucks and locomotives. Boxer stated that she plans to further address diesel truck pollution when she begins writing the new highway transportation bill for the region in early 2008.

New emissions rules for off-road construction vehicles and diesel trucks started taking effect this year, stated air quality officials. But these diesel engines last for decades.

So even though new truck engines will have lower emissions, there will be many, many thousands of older, dirtier trucks out there for 20 or 30 years. They will continue to pollute at much higher levels before they're replaced, unless further action is taken. Locomotives pose another challenge. The

SCAQMD has required railroad companies to keep trains from idling when unnecessary.

Jim Mulvihill, professor of environmental studies at Cal State San Bernardino, said some railroad companies have introduced new engines in the last five years that are up to 75 percent more efficient. Mr. Mulvihill stated that trains could reduce truck pollution and that one long train could make up for the work of 100 tractor trailers. However, because of the long lifespan of locomotive engines, it will be many years before these newer trains become the norm in the railroad fleet.

For more information, contact Peter Greenwald at (909) 396-2111.





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Funding Available for Heavy-Duty Truck Fleet

he South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is currently accepting proposals to fund heavy-

(SCAQMD) is currently accepting proposals to fund heavyduty on-road truck fleet modernization in the South Coast Air Basin under the Carl Moyer program. This program is designed to assist truck owners/operators to purchase Model Year 2006 diesel-fueled and Model Year 2004 and newer natural gas-fueled heavy-duty Class 7 and 8 trucks. These trucks would replace pre-1990 heavy-duty Class 7 and 8 diesel-fueled trucks. If a project qualifies under this program, the older pre-1990 truck must be destroyed. This program is open to both single owner/operators and fleet owner/operators. A maximum of five trucks per company will be funded under this program announcement. Applications are now being accepted and projects will be funded on a first-come

For more information, please contact Dipankar Sarkar (909) 396-2273.

first-served basis if all program requirements are met.



Additional Funding Approved for Non-Perc, Non-Ozone Forming Dry Cleaning Technology

A t its October meeting, the SCAQMD Governing Board approved \$1,000,000 in additional funding to help dry cleaners transition to nontoxic, non-polluting dry cleaning technologies. Including this extension, the SCAQMD has committed \$4.25 million to help dry cleaners make an early transition to environmentally friendly technologies.

Based on information gathered from Phase I and II of the original grant programs, most cleaners prefer to convert to hydrocarbon machines due to operational similarity to perc machines. There are 538 cleaners in total that have received funding through the dry cleaner grant program. Currently, the program provides for the following funding:

- \$20,000 for CO2 machines;
- \$10,000 for professional wet cleaning systems;
- Up to \$5,000 for professional wet cleaning systems that have existing tensioning equipment and require a new washer and dryer in order to complete the system; or do not require tensioning equipment because of their specialty operation.

For more information, contact Anupom Ganguli at (909) 396-3185.



Clean Truck Workshop Held in San Pedro

he ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach conducted a special informational workshop on the Clean Truck Program (CTP) on October 12, 2007, to provide all stakeholders with an opportunity to give input on the plan. The workshop was held in San Pedro and was attended by elected officials, environmentalists, goods movement industry representatives, and community organizations, as well as SCAQMD.

The CTP is an integral part of the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP) which was adopted by the ports in November 2006, and calls for lowering port-related air pollution from trucks, ships, and locomotives, and other equipment by 45 percent in 5 years. The CTP is designed to replace and/or retrofit close to 16,000 older high-polluting drayage trucks with clean trucks. Clean trucks are defined under the program as trucks manufactured in 2007 or later years, retrofitted trucks that meet the 2007 nitrogen oxides emissions standard and were manufactured in 1996 or later years, or trucks replaced under the Gateway Cities Trucks Replacement Program. The CTP will lower existing emissions by more than 80 percent within five years. Under the plan, only trucking concessionaries will be allowed to operate at the ports. Concessionaries will be required to have employee drivers replace owner operators after a transition period.

It is anticipated that the adoption hearing for the plan will be held in December 2007.

For more information, please contact Peter Greenwald at (909) 396-2111.



SCAQMD Awards \$6.2 Million for Renewable Energy, Tree Planting Projects

he Southland's air quality agency approved \$6.2 million to reduce the need for conventional power generation by installing solar panels and other renewable energy projects on residences and commercial buildings in the region.

"The funding fulfills a promise by SCAQMD's Board to promote renewable energy projects in communities near power plants that are disproportionately impacted by air pollution," said William A. Burke, Ed.D., Chairman of the SCAQMD. "The projects will help improve air quality in these communities and throughout the region."

Funding will equip 70 residences with solar photovoltaic panels and 13 commercial buildings with solar panels and other renewable energy projects. The projects were competitively ranked and selected from more than 300 proposals received by SCAQMD this year.

Last fall, SCAQMD's Governing Board approved a policy directing that mitigation fees paid to SCAQMD for new power plants be used to reduce air pollution in communities around the power plants. In addition, SCAQMD's Board specified that at least one-third of the fees would be used specifically for renewable energy projects.

Funding for projects approved comes from fees collected between 2000 and 2007 for 10 proposed new or modified power plants that purchased emission reduction credits from SCAQMD's credit "bank." Federal, state and local air pollution laws require new facilities to acquire emission reduction credits to prevent a worsening of air pollution in areas such as the Southland that already have poor air quality.

All projects funded are within a 5-mile radius of one of the ten power plants. About 51 percent of the funding is awarded for residential projects and 78 percent of the money is reserved for projects located in areas disproportionately impacted by air pollution.

SCAQMD also approved \$1 million to co-fund the Million Trees Initiative sponsored by the City of Los Angeles to plant and care for 1 million trees in Los Angeles. The trees will capture air pollution and will reduce

energy demand by providing shade.

A recent study by The Center for Urban Forest Research reported that trees have a significant ability to capture fine particles from the air and absorb pollutants such as ozone. And while trees can emit volatile organic compounds that contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone, the trees selected for planting in the program will be among the lowest-emitting available. Tree planting also helps reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide which contributes to global warming.

For further information, contact Adewale Oshinuga at (909) 396-2599.



University Competition to Develop Environmentally Friendly Leaf Vacuum

he Southland's air quality agency announced a nationwide competition that will award up to \$100,000 to university engineering students for developing a zero-emission leaf vacuum for commercial gardeners.

"This is an exciting opportunity for our best and brightest engineering students to use their ingenuity to help develop a new clean air technology," said William A. Burke, Ed.D., Chairman of the SCAQMD. "We are hopeful that winning projects will spur equipment manufacturers to produce an environmentally friendly replacement for commercial leaf blowers."

In February 2000, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) issued a report to the California Legislature indicating that the three main concerns regarding leaf blowers were the noise levels, the engine exhaust emissions, and the re-suspension of dust. A 2004 CARB report on the potential electrification of engines that could be used in

leaf blowers indicated that there were no battery-powered units available for sale that were powerful and portable enough to meet the needs of commercial gardeners.

SCAQMD will award a first place cash award of \$40,000; a second place cash award of \$20,000 and three third place cash awards of \$5,000 each for the design and development of a prototype leaf vacuum that meets specific performance requirements designed to address the three environmental concerns.

Engineering design proposals are due to SCAQMD by December 5, 2007. The top five finalists will then be invited to develop an operational prototype for demonstration and judging. Winners will be announced in May, 2008.

Winning prototypes will be used to encourage equipment manufacturers to produce an environmentally friendly alternative to commercial backpack

leaf blowers, which are a significant source of smog-forming emissions and a frequent source of complaints due to their loud noise and tendency to create large clouds of dust.

For more information on the leaf vacuum competition, visit SCAQMD's website at www.aqmd.gov or contact Larry Kolczak at (909) 396-3215.





19th Annual Clean Air Award Winners Honored

At the 2007 Clean Air Awards, SCAQMD recognized the outstanding achievements of the individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions toward improving the air we breathe here in Southern California. This year's winners are:

2007 LEADERSHIP IN **GOVERNMENT AWARD**

Robert "Bob" Foster, Mayor of Long Beach, California Bob Foster was elected mayor of Long Beach, the fifth largest city in California, in June 2006. Energy conservation and environmental issues have always been important to Foster. Early in his career, he worked as Chief of Staff to the California State Senate Energy Committee, where he worked on legislation requiring buildings to meet energy efficiency standards. Later, he implemented those standards while working as the Chief of the Conservation Unit of the California Energy Commission. During his tenure as President of Southern California Edison, he positioned the company as a national leader in renewable and alternative energy. Working with the Mayor of Los Angeles, Foster was instrumental in the adoption of the San Pedro Bay Port Clean Air Action Plan. Foster has also expanded the city's green building program to include commercial and residential development. Foster is a strong advocate for clean air and has frequently testified at state and federal hearings in support of legislation to clean up pollution in the region.



ROBERT M. ZWEIG, M.D. **MEMORIAL AWARD** John G. Miller, M.D. Lifetime Fellow of the American College of Emergency **Physicians**

Dr. John G. Miller is an Emergency Physician living in San Pedro who has actively participated in many public hearings and advisory committee meetings regarding

the adverse health effects of diesel emissions on people living and working in the Port-area communities. Dr. Miller has more than 30 years of experience practicing in various Southern California hospital emergency departments. Dr. Miller serves on the Port of Los Angeles Community Advisory Committee, where he chairs the Subcommittee on Environmental Impact Reports and Aesthetic Mitigation. He is on the Board of Directors of the Coalition for a Safe Environment, based in Wilmington. He is also a member of Physicians for Social Responsibility. He was the only medical doctor to serve on the No Net Increase Air Quality Task Force, which prepared a comprehensive report in 2005 recommending how to reduce port-related emissions and maintain them at 2001 levels.

INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

The Five Cities Hydrogen Program











Burbank

Ontario

Riverside

Santa Monica

Santa Ana

These five cities (Burbank, Ontario, Riverside, Santa Ana, and Santa Monica) are the first in the nation to have municipal hydrogen fueling facilities. As part of the program, each city will operate its own fleet of five Prius hybrid vehicles that have been modified to operate on hydrogen gas rather than gasoline. The facilities at Burbank, Riverside, and Santa Monica will generate hydrogen gas using electrolyzer units that separate hydrogen from water. Ontario and Santa Ana will operate using mobile hydrogen fueling trailers. All five facilities have been installed and are being operated by Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. Hydrogen-fueled internal combustion engine vehicles are considered a near-term bridge to future technologies, including fuel cell vehicles, which emit only water vapor.

INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

University of Southern California



The University of Southern California's highly successful Employee Commute Reduction Program is attributable to their creative marketing, strong support strategies, and incentives they offer employees. The program is marketed through quarterly newsletters, a webpage, rideshare meetings, focus groups, and an annual rideshare fair. The University consistently achieves scores much higher than their required average vehicle ridership target of 1.5. In 2007, they achieved an AVR of 1.77 riders per vehicle. On an average day, approximately 900 employees carpool or vanpool, over 1,100 use bus or rail, and almost 1,200 walk or bike to work. The University is also converting to cleaner fleet vehicles. They have converted 24 diesel buses to biodiesel and one to CNG. And they are replacing light-duty fleet vehicles with hybrids only.

MODEL COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT



City of Santa Monica

The City of Santa Monica created a Sustainable City Program and has pioneered a model program of purchasing environmentally friendly janitorial cleaning products. That program was shared nationwide in a U.S. EPA report that documented

Santa Monica[®]

a reduction of 3,200 pounds of hazardous materials, while reducing costs by 5 percent. The city is a national leader in green building design and recently completed two public buildings, and five more that are under construction, that are certified as meeting national Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards. Santa Monica also has the nation's first LEED-certified city park. The city encourages green building in the private sector by offering

developers expedited plan checks and up to \$35,000 in grants. Santa Monica supports alternative fuel vehicles and currently operates electric, hybrid-electric (including plug-ins), natural gas. hydrogen and biodiesel vehicles. They have publicly available electric vehicle charging stations, as well as natural gas and hydrogen fueling stations. The city also hosts the annual AltCar Expo. a premier event showcasing a wide range of alternative fuel vehicles.





PROMOTION OF GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL **STEWARDSHIP**



Founder and Executive Director of California Safe Schools

Robina Suwol began researching safer alternatives to pesticides after her son's school called and said her youngest son had suffered a severe asthma attack. Suwol eventually founded a children's environmental health organization called California

Safe Schools. Suwol presented the information she gathered to the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education. A working group was formed and it drafted a groundbreaking Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy to reduce the use of pesticides around schools. One year later, that policy was adopted by the LAUSD and the policy was the nation's first to embrace the Precautionary Principle

and the Parents' Right to Know about chemicals used in or around schools. It has led to the passage of several comprehensive state laws including the Healthy Schools Act of 2000, and the School Pesticide Safety Bill (AB 405) which banned the use of experimental pesticides on school campuses. The IPM policy has become the model safeguarding tool for school districts, both nationally and internationally.



ADVANCEMENT OF AIR **POLLUTION TECHNOLOGY**



Westport Cummins Westport Inc. Cummins Westport

introduced the cleanest

heavy-duty production engine ever built. Their new 8.9-liter ISL-G natural gas engine not only meets the 2007 State and Federal emission standards, it is the first engine to be certified as meeting the 2010 emission standards. This low-emission engine is a size that is typically used in heavyduty trash trucks, dump trucks, transit buses, school buses, and similar applications. The emissions from this Cummins Westport engine are approximately 90% lower than a typical diesel engine. This is accomplished by using a combination of natural gas fuel, exhaust gas recirculation, stoichiometric spark-ignited combustion, and a simple three-way catalyst.



PUBLIC EDUCATION ON AIR QUALITY ISSUES Western Riverside County Clean Cities Coalition

The Western Riverside County Clean Cities Coalition conducts two exemplary educational programs, one focusing on middle school students, and the other directed toward car owners. The Coalition launched its Interactive School Program four years ago. Coalition staff has given air quality presentations to over 5,000 students at various middle schools in Banning, Corona, Hemet, Perris, Moreno Valley, Norco, Riverside and outlying areas. Students receive more in-depth information to take home in a fact-filled activity guide entitled Air Quality Extraordinaire. The Coalition's Car Care for Clean Air program is now in its third year, and provides car owners with one-on-one advice on how to ensure that their vehicles are operating cleanly and efficiently. More than 3,000 residents attended the five events conducted in 2007, and more than 120 cars were tested for emissions. About 58 percent of the vehicles needed some kind of maintenance, and 26 percent failed the emissions test. Vehicle technicians did minor repairs on-site, and provided customers with incentive coupons to have more extensive work done at local shops.



RULEUPDATE

The following proposed and amended rules and regulations are tentatively scheduled for hearing at upcoming Governing Board meetings. To verify whether scheduling changes have occurred, visit the SCAQMD Web site at www.aqmd.gov/hb/gb_cal95.html and check the Rule and Control Measure item on the Governing Board meeting agenda or call the Clerk of the Board's Office at (909) 396-2500.

Copies of SCAQMD rules and regulations can be downloaded from the Web site at www.aqmd. gov/rules/rules.html or provided by SCAQMD's Public Information Center, (909) 396-2039.

December

Proposed Amended Rule 1110.2 - Emissions from Gaseous- and Liquid-Fueled Engines

Would include changes to emission limits for stationary internal combustion engines and amendments to monitoring and testing requirements, frequency and methods, to improve compliance and address U.S. EPA comments. For more information, contact Marty Kay at (909) 396-3115 or mkay@aqmd.gov.

Proposed Amended Rule 222.1 - Filing and Registration of Architectural Coatings and Rule 314 - Fees for Architectural Coatings

Proposed Rule 222.1 will establish a registration program for architectural coatings. Proposed Rule 314 will establish a fee program for architectural coatings to recover the AQMD cost of that program and facilitate further reductions. For more information, contact Larry Bowen at (909) 396-2575 or lbowen@aqmd.gov.

Proposed Rule 443.2- Consumer Product Labeling

Would establish a VOC labeling program for consumer products in order to distinguish super-compliant products containing ultra low- or zero-VOC content levels from products with higher VOC content. For more information, contact Lee Lockie at (909) 396-2390 or llockie@aqmd.gov.

Proposed Rule 1139 (Phase II)-Reduction of VOC Emissions from Cleaning Operations at Large Institutional and Commercial Facilities

Would establish usage limits for cleaning products used at institutional and commercial facilities with large VOC emissions from the use of these products.

For more information, contact Larry Bowen at (909) 396-2575 or lbowen@aqmd.gov.

Proposed Amended Rule 1149- Storage Tank Degassing (FUG-04)

Would further reduce VOC emissions from cleaning and degassing petroleum storage tanks, including standards for the associated degassing equipment.

For more information, contact Larry Bowen at (909) 396-2575 or lbowen@aqmd.gov.

Proposed Amended Rules 1401-New Source Review of Toxic Air Contaminants; 1402-Control of Toxic Air Contaminants from Existing Sources

To be updated to add diesel particulate from internal combustion engines.

For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at (909) 396-3105 or snakamura@aqmd.gov.

Proposed Amended Rule 1472-Risk Requirements for Stationary Diesel-Fueled Internal Combustion and Other Compression Ignition Engines

Would address the health risk from diesel particulate from existing stationary internal combustion engines. For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at (909) 396-3105 or snakamura@aqmd.gov.

SCAOMDAdviso

A&WMA Conference

The Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) held their annual conference on October 17 & 18, 2007, at the North/Glendale Hilton. The conference featured speakers that addressed current issues related to future energy demand and global warming. The speakers include recognized experts in their respective fields, including regulators, public officials, consultants, and professionals from industry and academia.

The conference attracted a wide audience by providing timely and interesting information on future energy demand and global warming topics, including a range of scientific, technical, and regulatory issues. Scientists, engineers and policymakers from county, state, and federal agencies, regional conservation districts, consulting firms, colleges and universities, regulated businesses and industries, and environmental advocacy groups shared valuable information.

For more information, contact Anupom Ganguli at (909) 396-3185.

Green Car Incentives

limate change is a real problem. Solutions will need to come from many areas – energy, transportation, industry, buildings, homes, and citizens. We all should consider and take steps that, while small individually, will add up and make a difference. That can include using less energy, recycling, and making good choices as a business owner, a homeowner, or a commuter.

One progressive, local credit union is setting an example by offering lower loan rates for purchasing environmentally friendly vehicles. This is great for consumers and helps move people to choices that save them money, use less gasoline, reduce smog and toxic pollutants, and contribute to solving the global climate problem.

Future issues of the Advisor will feature information on climate change and what can be done to help contribute to reducing greenhouse gases. Each Advisor will highlight a local business, community group, individual, or others that are doing noteworthy things to help reduce greenhouse gases. Suggestions are welcome – let us know what you or your organization or group is doing.

For further information, please contact Jill Whynot at (909) 396-3104.









Briefly...

Rule Compliance Promotion Classes

Rule 403-Controlling Dust in the South Coast Air Basin

· Every third Wednesday of the month

This half-day class is held at SCAQMD's Diamond Bar head*quarters from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30* a.m. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. To register, call toll free 1-866-861-DUST (3878) or email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov.

Rule 403.1-Controlling Dust in the Coachella Valley

· Every third Thursday of the month

This course is held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, Room 119, 73-710 Fred Waring Dr., Palm Desert, CA, 92260. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. To register, call toll free 1-866-861-DUST (3878) or email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov.

Rule 461-Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing

Daily Self-Inspection

December 6, 2007 This is a one-day class. \$50.00

Annual Periodic Inspection

November 29 & 30 This is a two-day class. \$150.00 fee.

Tester Orientation

• December 4 This is a one-day class. \$100.00 fee.

Above meetings are held at AQMD headquarters on the designated dates from 8:30 - 5:00 p.m. To register, call Evangelina Barrera at (909) 396-2583.

Rule 1403-Asbestos Demolition/ **Renovation Activities**

- November 21
- December 19

The classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at SCAQMD headquarters. There is a \$32.75 class fee.

To register call (909) 396-2381 or send e-mail to jmoore@aqmd.gov.

Rule 2202-Employee **Transportation Coordinator Training**

Transportation Authority, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles

- Nov. 28, SCAQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters
- Dec. 5, SCAQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters Classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration fee is \$61.70 per person. Enrollment is limited to 20 students and classes will be filled on a first-come,

To register, call (909) 396-2777 or e-mail etctraining@aqmd.gov.

first-served basis.

Advisor

This bimonthly news publication is produced by the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) Public Affairs Office. SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange county and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. SCAQMD does not endorse or warrant any products, services or companies mentioned in this publication.

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