

**Air Quality Management Division  
Division Director Staff Report  
Board Meeting Date: April 24, 2025**

**DATE:** April 3, 2025

**TO:** District Board of Health

**FROM:** Francisco Vega, P.E., Division Director  
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**SUBJECT:** **Air Quality Management** - State of the Global Climate 2024, January 2025 EPA Small Business Newsletters, Divisional Update, Program Reports, Monitoring and Planning, Permitting and Compliance.

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**1. Program Update**

**a. State of the Global Climate 2024**

The World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) annual State of the Global Climate report for 2024 finds that key climate change indicators reached record levels again last year, with oceans at record high temperatures and sea levels rising and glaciers melting at record speed. Specifically, the report discovered the following findings:

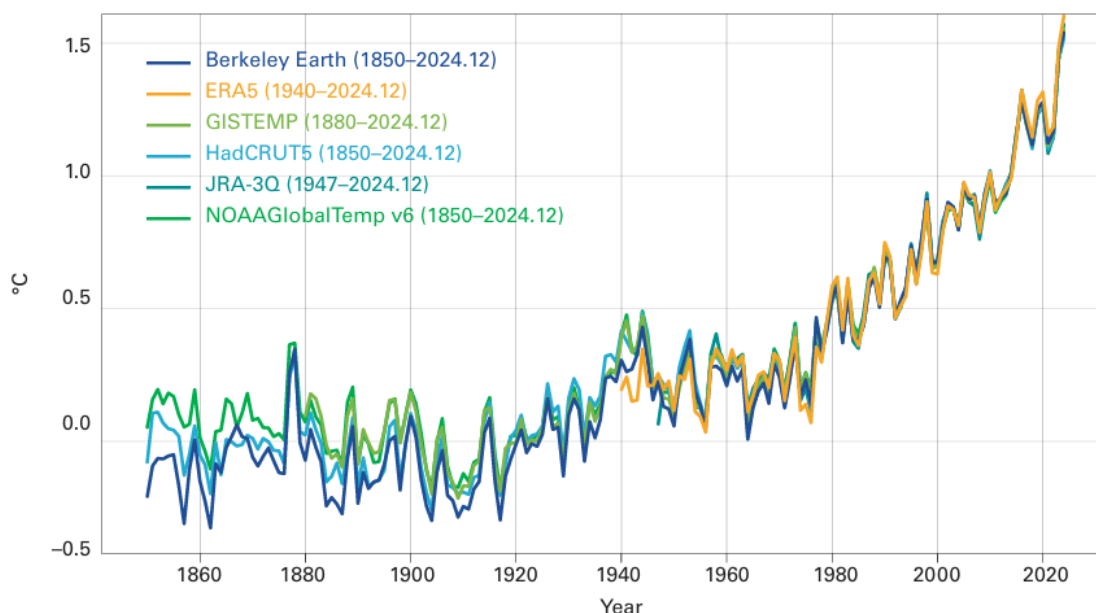
- The annually averaged global mean near-surface temperature in 2024 was  $1.55^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0.13^{\circ}\text{C}$  above the 1850–1900 average.
- 2024 was the warmest year in the 175-year observational record. The previous warmest year was 2023 with an anomaly of  $1.45^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0.12^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- The long-term rate of sea-level rise has more than doubled since the start of the satellite record, increasing from 2.1 mm per year between 1993 and 2002 to 4.7 mm per year between 2015 and 2024.
- Atmospheric carbon dioxide reached 420 parts per million, the highest level in at least 800,000 years.

WMO still believes that the goal of limiting warming to a long-term average of  $1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  is still possible, although the planet did surpass that limit for the first time last year.

“While a single year above  $1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  of warming does not indicate that the long-term temperature goals of the Paris Agreement are out of reach, it is a wake-up call that we are increasing the risks to our lives, economies and to the planet,” said Celeste Saulo, Secretary General of the WMO.



**Figure: Annual global mean temperature anomalies relative to a pre-industrial (1850–1900)**



For the full report and additional information, please visit the link below.

[https://library.wmo.int/viewer/69455/download?file=WMO-1368-2024\\_en.pdf&type=pdf&navigator=1](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/69455/download?file=WMO-1368-2024_en.pdf&type=pdf&navigator=1)

**b. January 2025 EPA Small Business Newsletters**

Please visit the link below to view the January 2025 EPA small business monthly newsletters which highlights environmental regulation, compliance assistance, resources,

**SMALLBIZ@EPA**

EPA's Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman Program

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE REGULATED SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY

and upcoming events. Contact [asbo@epa.gov](mailto:asbo@epa.gov) to subscribe to the newsletter. For more information about small business resources and Small Business Environmental Assistance

Programs (SBEAPs), visit <https://www.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses>.

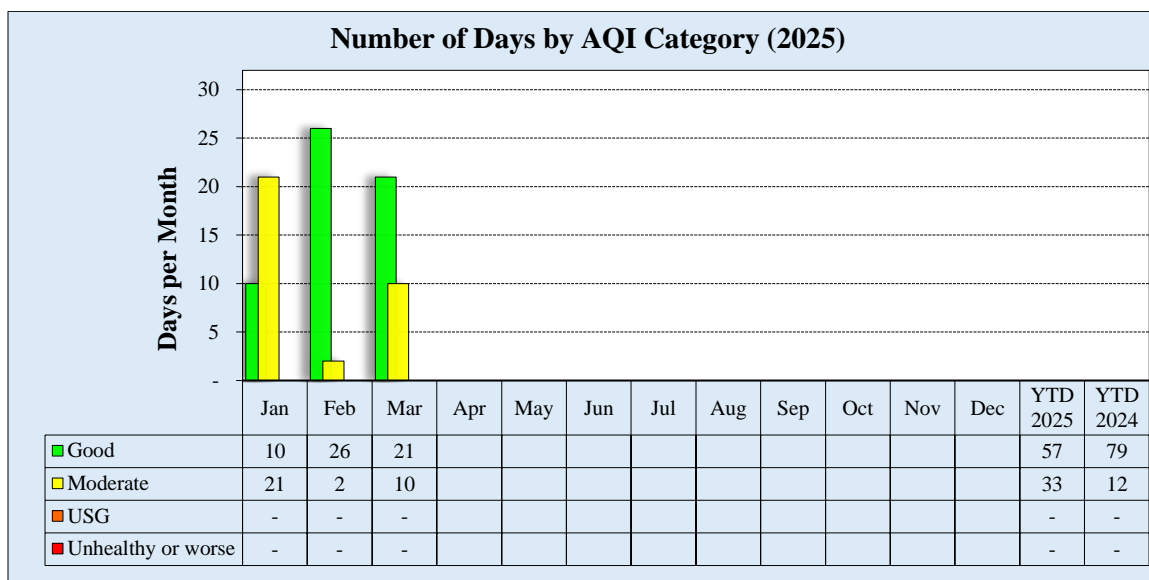
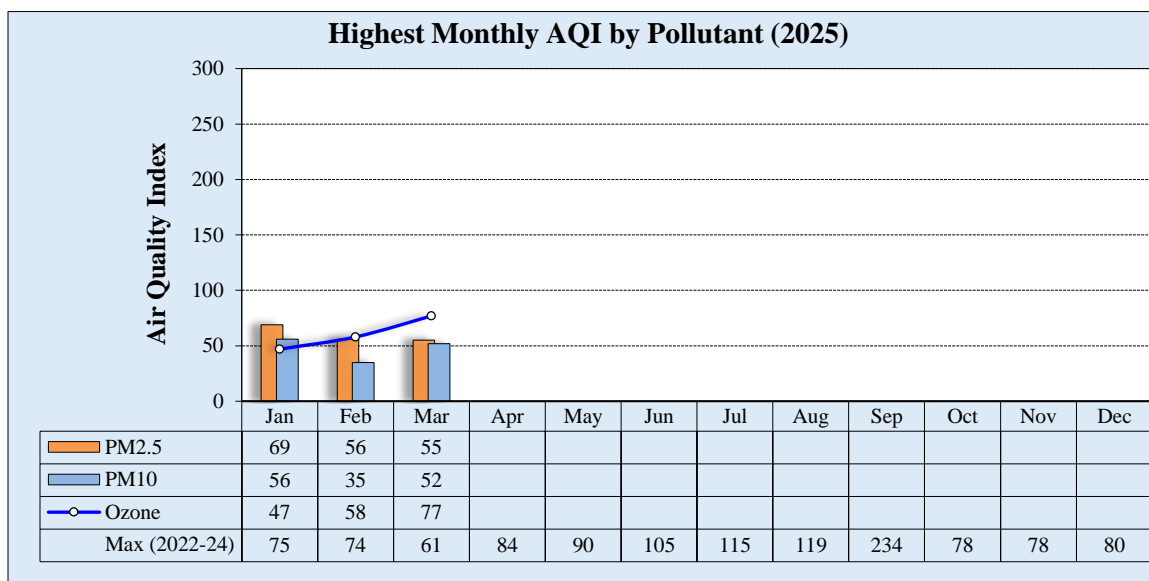
January Newsletters

<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2025-03/asbo-january-2025-smallbiz.pdf>

Francisco Vega, P.E., MBA  
Division Director

## 2. Divisional Update

- a. Below are two charts detailing the most recent ambient air monitoring data. The top chart indicates the highest AQI by pollutant and includes the highest AQI from the previous three (3) years in the data table, for comparison. The bottom chart indicates the number of days by AQI category and includes the previous year to date for comparison.



Ambient air monitoring data in these charts represent midnight to midnight concentrations to illustrate comparisons to the NAAQS. These data are neither fully verified nor validated and should be considered PRELIMINARY. As such, the data should not be used to formulate or support regulation, guidance, or any other governmental or public decision.

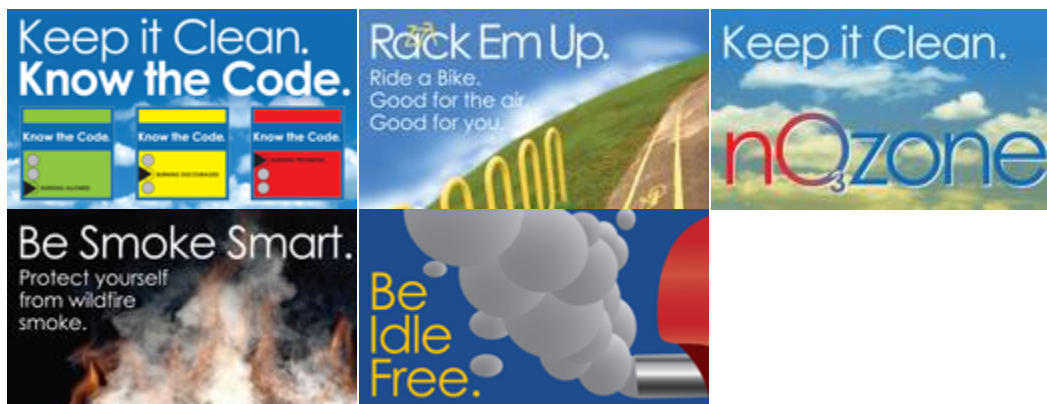
### 3. Program Reports

#### a. Monitoring and Planning

March Air Quality: There were no exceedances of the ozone, PM<sub>10</sub>, or PM<sub>2.5</sub> National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The highest ozone, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for the month are listed in the table below.

Pollutant	Concentration	Date(s)	Site(s)	Notes
Ozone (8-hour)	0.063 ppm	3/29	Incline	-
PM <sub>2.5</sub> (24-hour)	11.0 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	3/11	Spanish Springs	-
PM <sub>10</sub> (24-hour)	58 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	3/16	Toll	-

Air Quality Awareness Week: Air Quality Awareness Week is May 5 through May 9, 2025. It will highlight resources that increase air quality awareness and encourage people to take action and incorporate air quality knowledge into their daily living. It will also provide an opportunity for people to learn about what causes poor air quality and how people can prepare for, and respond to, events and environments with poor air quality, not just during the month of May, but year-round. To celebrate, AQMD will be providing information on social media each day to empower the citizens of Washoe County on the topic of air quality. Daily topics will showcase AQMD's award-winning Keep It Clean programs.



Craig A. Petersen  
Supervisor, Monitoring and Planning

## b. Permitting and Compliance

### March

In March 2025, staff reviewed sixty-one (61) sets of plans submitted to the Reno, Sparks, or Washoe County Building Departments to assure the activities complied with Air Quality requirements. Of the sixty-one (61) sets of plans assigned in March, sixty-one (61) were completed within the jurisdictional timeframes. Of the one hundred fifty-two (152) plans reviewed in calendar year 2025, one hundred fifty-two (152) were completed per jurisdictional timeframes.

AQMD 2025 Plan Review				
Month	Plans Received	Avg. Days to Complete	Percent Timely Completions	Untimely Reviews
January	50	1.78	100%	0
February	41	1.9	100%	0
March	61	1.36	100%	0
April				
May				
June				
July				
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>1.68</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0</b>

In March 2025, staff conducted thirty-eight (38) routine and four (4) initial compliance inspections of stationary sources. Staff were assigned six (6) new asbestos abatement projects – monitoring the removal of approximately fifty-six thousand two hundred thirty-six (56,236) square feet of asbestos containing materials. Staff received seven (7) facility demolition projects to monitor. Further, there were fourteen (14) new construction/dust projects comprising an additional one hundred fifteen (115) acres of disturbance. Staff documented forty-six (46) construction site inspections. During the month, compliance staff also responded to eighteen (18) complaints.

Permits and Registrations Processed	2025		2024	
	March	YTD	March	Annual Total
Reissuance of Existing Air Permits	62	163	94	1,069
New Stationary Source Permits	5 (New and Major Modifications)	13	4 (New and Major Modifications)	42
Dust Control Permits	14 (115 acres)	47 (938 acres)	12 (178 acres)	186 (2,411 acres)
Wood Stove (WS) Certificates	25	68	18	247
WS Dealers Affidavit of Sale	5 (3 replacements)	20 (7 replacements)	9 (4 replacements)	106 (46 replacements)
WS Notice of Exemptions	499 (6 stoves removed)	1,465 (11 stoves removed)	607 (3 stoves removed)	7,166 (64 stoves removed)
Asbestos Assessments	63	137	48	634
Asbestos Demo and Removal (NESHAP)	13	35	22	154

Complaints	2025		2024	
	March	YTD	March	Annual Total
Asbestos	0	0	1	11
Diesel Idling	0	0	0	2
Dust	14	19	7	121
Nuisance Odor	0	2	0	18
Permit to Operate	1	3	0	0
Burn Code	0	0	0	12
General	3	15	3	47
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>211</b>
Enforcement	2025		2024	
	March	YTD	March	Annual Total
Warnings	4	12	1	41
Notice of Violations	7	10	7	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>65</b>

Joshua C. Restori  
Supervisor, Permitting & Compliance