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W. James Wagoner
Air Pollution Control Officer

Robert McLaughlin
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PRESS RELEASE – AUGUST 11, 2009

PUBLIC WORKSHOP MEETING AND HEARING NOTICE

The Butte County Air Quality Management District is proposing
New Rule 208 – *Mandatory Wood Burning Curtailment Periods*

Who:

The Butte County Air Quality Management District (District) contacts: Gail Williams, Senior Air Quality Planner (891-2882 x105) or W. James Wagoner, Air Pollution Control Officer (891-2882 x 102)

What:

The District is hosting three public workshops to review and discuss New Rule 208 - *Mandatory Wood Burning Curtailment Periods*. Residents, business owners and interested parties are encouraged to attend the workshops to learn more about the potential changes, offer comments and ask questions.

Proposed New Rule 208 – *Mandatory Wood Burning Curtailment Periods* is being considered by the District's Governing Board to fulfill State and federal mandates. The purpose of Rule 208 is to make progress toward attainment of federal and State respirable particulate matter (PM10) and fine particulate matter (PM2.5) health-based standards. If adopted, during the months of November through February, new Rule 208 would prohibit the use of non-EPA Phase II certified wood stoves or fireplaces on poor air quality days within the Chico Sphere of Influence area.

When & Where:

Wednesday, August 19, 2009 **6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**
Chico City Council Chambers, 421 Main Street, Chico, CA 95928

Wednesday, September 2, 2009 **6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**
Chico City Council Chambers, 421 Main Street, Chico, CA 95928

Thursday, September 10, 2009 **6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**
Chico City Council Chambers, 421 Main Street, Chico, CA 95928

Why:

Residential chimney smoke is a major source of wintertime air pollution in Chico. More than a nuisance, the microscopic particles in smoke have been linked to significant health problems. Exposure to PM2.5 & PM10 can cause coughing, wheezing, and decreased lung function even in otherwise healthy children and adults.

To learn more about the proposed rule, ask questions or offer feedback, please join us at one of the workshops. More information, including a copy of the map of the Chico Sphere of Influence area, is available on the District website: www.bcaqmd.org.

Proposed New Rule 208 will be submitted to the District Governing Board for consideration and approval at the September 24th Board meeting at 10:15 a.m. located at the Chico City Council Chambers, 421 Main Street, Chico.