NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

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BACKYARD BURNING SUSPENDED

San Luis Obispo – In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 4423(b), May 1, 2017 marks the end of the open burn season. Burning authorized under Backyard Burn Permits issued by the Air Pollution Control District (APCD) will be suspended until the end of fire season. In addition to an <u>APCD Burn Permit</u>, all other types of burning will now require a <u>CAL FIRE Burn Permit</u> to be issued by the local <u>CAL FIRE Station</u>.

Residents within <u>State Responsibility Areas</u> are required to maintain 100 feet of <u>Defensible Space</u> around all habitable structures on their property. In addition to maintaining adequate defensible space, residents are encouraged to be vigilant and avoid activities that could spark unwanted fires such as mowing dry vegetation during warm, dry, or windy weather. Fire Chief Scott Jalbert stated, "We will heighten our response capabilities to deal with the burning conditions, residents need to be prepared as well."