



Port Receives “Breathe California” Air Quality Award

Group honors Port for aggressive clean-air plans

September 16, 2006

The Port of Long Beach on Friday, September 15, accepted the prestigious “Air Quality Improvement Award” from Breathe California of Los Angeles County, a longtime advocacy group dedicated to reducing air pollution and improving the respiratory health of Southern California residents.

Breathe California of Los Angeles County is a nonprofit research, education and advocacy organization formerly known as the American Lung Association of Los Angeles County. The 2006 Clean Air Improvement Awards honor “individuals or entities who have initiated a distinct plan to change policies or practices which will produce a positive impact on respiratory health [and] incorporated concerns of community, environmental and health organizations into their business practices.”

The Port was recognized, along with the Port of Los Angeles, for the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan.

“The Port of Long Beach is honored to receive this important award from Breathe California,” said Dr. Robert Kanter, the Port’s director of planning and environmental affairs. “We have worked hard to implement environmental practices to reduce harmful air pollutants, and under the Clean Air Action Plan, we will take that work to yet another level.”

The Clean Air Action Plan is the most aggressive, comprehensive plan to reduce air emissions in the history of United States seaports. Through a variety of innovative strategies and implementation of new technologies, the ports’ plan to reduce air pollution from all port-related sources by 50 percent or more in the next five years.

“The milestone action plan clearly highlights how the Port of Long Beach can help lead the way for California and the rest of the world by providing a model clean air plan that outlines a commitment to protect the health of people over profit while advancing the success and growth of the region,” Breathe California CEO Enrique Chiock wrote in a congratulatory letter to the Port.

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