



**LAKE COUNTY AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**
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Honorable Members
County of Lake Grand Jury
P.O. Box 1078
Kelseyville, CA 95451

August 6, 2025

Subject: District Response to Civil Grand Jury Report for 2024-2025.

Dear Honorable Members:

This letter serves as a response to the Civil Grand Jury Report 2024-2025 recommendations presented to the Lake County Air Quality Management District (District).

The best way for members of the public to access accurate information is to visit the District website at www.LCAQMD.net or call the office at 707-263-7000. District staff also publishes Public Information Releases twice a year with information regarding the burn season and the process to obtain burn permits and exemption permits.

The following is our response to the Recommendations:

R-1: Disagree: Recommendation 1 will not be implemented. The process already exists for issuance of exemption permits in coordination with the appropriate Fire Agencies and is defined in District Rule Sections 433.5 and 1003.

R-2: Disagree: Recommendation 2 will not be implemented. The process already exists for issuance of burn permits by Fire Protection Agencies and is defined in District Rule Section 1002 and Health & Safety Code Section 41853.

R-3: Agree: Recommendation 3 has been implemented. Several updates to the cloud based permit system have been made since the District took ownership in September 2024 and additional updates will continue to be made as issues are identified.

R-4: Agree: Recommendation 4 has been implemented. The District hired 2 staff members in 2025.

R-5: Agree: Recommendation 5 will be implemented upon completion of the South Main Street road project.

R-6: Disagree: Recommendation 6 will not be implemented. The reference information is correct, however the District will remove it from the Residential Burn permit to avoid confusion between information given verses services offered.

R-7: Disagree: Recommendation 7 will not be implemented. This is a private association made up of the Fire Chiefs. The Air District is an invited guest and attends when requested by the Fire Chiefs.

R-8: Disagree: Recommendation 8 will not be implemented. The process already exists to obtain online burn permits anywhere that has a computer.

R-9: Disagree: Recommendation 9 will not be implemented. The process already exists for applicants to watch the CalFire video with the online burn permit system.

R-10: Disagree: Recommendation 10 will not be implemented. The legal process already exists for issuance of exemption permits which meet the requirements of District Rule Section 1003 and California Health and Safety Code Section 41862.

R-11: Agree-Partial: Recommendation 11 implementation is in process. Updates to the online permit system are in process as described in response to Recommendation 3. Some updates requested will not be made as the burn permits were developed to meet legal and statutory requirements and others are not applicable to District regulatory needs.

While the District is unable to implement all Recommendations, we appreciate the Civil Grand Jury's hard work in preparing this report, and share a commitment to ensuring residents are well served by the District.

Sincerely,



Douglas Gearhart, APCO

CC: Lake County Air Quality
Management District
Board of Directors