



## INDUSTRY RECOGNITION PROGRAM

# Clean Air Champions

On an on-going basis, the Air Pollution Control District designates companies or organizations who consistently demonstrate their commitment to reduce air emissions as "Clean Air Champions" to publicly express APCD's appreciation for their extra efforts and to encourage others to follow suit.

These Clean Air Champions go above and beyond simple compliance with current air quality regulations. To nominate a deserving company or organization, please complete a Clean Air Champions Nomination Form.

## CLEAN AIR CHAMPIONS

(date order – most recent first)

### **Waste Management of San Diego (WMSD)**

1001 W. Bradley Ave., El Cajon, CA 92020

WMSD's 122 liquid natural gas (LNG)-powered trucks comprise the nation's largest fleet of natural gas collection trucks. Equivalent to removing 9,200 cars from the roadway, the emission reductions were used to pave the way for construction of a much-needed power plant. This was the first time that emission reductions from mobile sources were used to offset emissions from a new major stationary source.



The WMSD fleet also uses LNG from the world's largest plant converting landfill gas to LNG. Landfill gas results from the natural decomposition of organic waste in the landfill.

WMSD recently launched the use of solar powered trash compactors. The compactors are equipped with a module that sends a signal for pick up when full. This novel product will reduce the need for trash pick ups by up to 80%, which greatly reduces the use of fuel and the number of truck trips needed for collection.

### **Pfizer La Jolla**

10777 Science Center Drive, San Diego, CA 92121

The world-wide pharmaceutical company Pfizer conducts research and development at its La Jolla campus. As part of its commitment to protecting the environment, Pfizer has adopted a Green Chemistry program and has cut its solvent usage significantly, thereby reducing polluting emissions. Pfizer has also achieved significant greenhouse gas emission reductions and is a leader in energy conservation. (12/4/09)



### **Qualcomm Incorporated (2009 Blue Sky Leadership Award Winner)**

5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, CA 92121

Qualcomm has gone well beyond merely achieving a high level of compliance. They have installed two natural gas fueled cogeneration turbines that have very low emissions. One of these turbines has supplanted three older turbines that did not operate very cleanly and these older turbines have been relegated to an emergency backup role.

In addition, Qualcomm has instituted many steps to increase energy efficiency including high efficiency lighting fixtures, gas absorption chillers, boilers and water heaters. They have installed solar panels on some of their building roofs and plan to expand that program.

Recognized as one of the “Best Workplaces for Commuters” in terms of reducing traffic and air pollution, Qualcomm commuter resources include transit subsidies, a hybrid vehicle fleet, hybrid and electric vehicle charging stations, shuttle services, bike lockers, motorcycle parking and many on-site amenities.

Taken together the efforts of Qualcomm have reduced the amount of energy they consume as well as the amount of fuel they use, with corresponding air quality benefits. (9/22/09)

### **Nancy’s Cleaners**

1730 Alpine Blvd., #104, Alpine, CA 91901

In May 2007, the company switched from using perchloroethylene (perc), a toxic air contaminant, to professional wet cleaning. Wet cleaning is a non-toxic, environmentally safe alternative to dry cleaning, utilizing computer-controlled washing machines, biodegradable soaps, and conditioners, and various types of pressing equipment that may be specialized for many different fabric and fiber types. This was done well ahead of the July 2010 deadline when perc dry cleaners will have to start phasing out this solvent. (9/15/09)



### **Sunny Fresh Cleaners**

8849 Villa La Jolla Drive, #305, La Jolla, CA 92037



In December 2006, this dry cleaners changed from using perchloroethylene (perc), a toxic air contaminant, to professional wet cleaning. Wet cleaning uses the universal solvent – water – along with special computer-controlled machines that utilize specialized detergents and conditioners that do not contain any hazardous chemicals or generate hazardous waste. This change was done well ahead of the July 2010 deadline when perc dry cleaners will have to start phasing out this solvent. (9/14/09)