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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 19, 2022 FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Larry Freilich, (760) 878-0011 InyoCAPPII@inyocounty.us

INYO COUNTY SEEKS PROPOSALS FOR AIR POLLUTION REDUCTION PROJECTS

\$1.26 million in funding available through Clean Air Projects Program II

INDEPENDENCE, CA – The County of Inyo is now seeking proposals from individuals, groups, and other entities interested in creating and completing projects to reduce local air pollution.

A total of \$1.26* million is available in competitive grant funding for projects that either directly or indirectly reduce air pollution within what's known as the Owens Valley Planning Area, a swath of land from just north of the Aberdeen area to south of Olancha (see attached map).

Individuals, non-profit organizations, businesses, and governmental and educational institutions are all eligible to participate in the Clean Air Projects Program II (CAPP II), but the projects must be located within the Owens Valley Planning Area and completed by June 30, 2025. The County will be accepting proposals for eligible projects through March 31, 2022.

The CAPP is the result of a 2011 Abatement Order issued to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power by the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District. The order stipulated that LADWP implement additional dust controls at Owens Lake and pay an excess emission offset amount of \$6.5 million – 85% of which was to go into a special fund established by Great Basin for use on clean-air projects Inyo, Mono, and Alpine counties, with special preference given to the Owens Valley Planning Area. Under the first round of CAAP, more than \$5.5 million was spent on air pollution reduction projects over a three-year period.

CAPP II funds, which the County will be distributing on behalf of LADWP and Great Basin, are available as a result of the Air Pollution Control District issuing LADWP an Order to Pay for non-compliance in 2018.

Examples of eligible projects and more specific guidance, including the Request for Proposals issued by Inyo County on January 3, can be found at: <u>https://www.inyocounty.us/government/clean-air-projects-program-ii</u>.

To answer questions and help applicants prepare competitive proposals, Inyo County is holding two virtual workshops on Thursday, January 20: one at 9 a.m. and one at 6 p.m. Check the website for a link to the workshop.

Questions may also be directed to InyoCAPPII@inyocounty.us.

*An earlier version of this press release mistakenly reported that \$1.4 million is available.

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