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## **ADEQ Issues Particulate Matter-2.5 High Pollution Advisory for Nogales on Friday as Cold Expected to Trigger Fireplaces**

PHOENIX (Jan. 10, 2013) -- The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality is issuing a High Pollution Advisory (HPA) for Nogales and vicinity on Friday, Jan. 11 for PM-2.5, or fine particulate matter 2.5 microns or less in size.

The HPA is being issued because a significant front is expected to pass through Nogales and the Santa Cruz County area late Thursday and produce very cold conditions Friday and throughout the weekend, potentially triggering the widespread use of wood burning for heat beginning Friday.

“Forecasts are calling for extremely cold air to enter on Friday and Saturday,” said ADEQ Air Quality Director Eric Massey. “We expect these cold temperatures to trigger a significant increase in the amount of wood-burning activity which will result in high concentrations of PM-2.5.”

ADEQ recommends that children and adults with respiratory problems avoid outdoor activities on Friday and suggests the general public limit outdoor activity throughout the day. Nogales and vicinity residents should avoid activities that generate fine dust like wood burning in fireplaces, stoves, chimineas and outdoor fire pits and driving on dirt roads.

PM-2.5 is extremely small solid particles and liquid droplets found circulating in the air which comes from stirred dust or combustion from either cars, industry or wood burning. High levels of PM are typically created when the air is especially stagnant or especially windy. One particle of PM-2.5 is about one-thirtieth the size of a human hair.

ADEQ provides a daily air quality forecast for Nogales at <http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/air/ozone/nogales.pdf> . To subscribe to the Nogales and vicinity air quality forecast, go to <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/AZDEQ/subscriber/new>, enter your email address and check “Nogales Air Quality Forecast.”

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