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Sandra Lopez becomes new LRAPA Operations Manager

Sandra Lopez has been promoted at the Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority (LRAPA) as their new Operations Manager effective January 30, 2006. Sandra came to LRAPA in November 2005 as an Air Permit Writer. In her new role, she will be responsible for managing the permitting, compliance and enforcement functions of the agency.

“We are excited to announce Sandra’s promotion to Operations Manager,” said Merlyn Hough, LRAPA Director. “The Operations Manager position demands a special combination of administrative, technical and interpersonal skills. Sandra has demonstrated she has the necessary environmental engineering and management experience to effectively oversee this key work of LRAPA.”

Sandra has a BS degree in Environmental Engineering from Cal Poly State University and is a professional engineer registered in mechanical engineering by the California Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. She has extensive experience in the air quality field and most recently worked as the Environmental Supervisor of the City of Fort Worth Air Program. She also served as the Executive Director of the Western States Air Resources Council, as senior engineer at Sierra Research in Sacramento, California, and as supervising permit engineer at Bay Area Air Quality Management District in San Francisco.

As Operations Manager at LRAPA, she will oversee the work of a seven-person operations team. Their work includes issuing, modifying and renewing construction and operating permits; preparing and updating emission inventories; conducting new source reviews; inspecting, investigating and evaluating asbestos abatement projects and related air pollution issues; responding to and resolving air pollution complaints; determining violations for enforcement actions and preparing enforcement cases; and developing rule and policy revisions as needed.

“I’m excited to be working for a local air quality organization.” said Sandra. “LRAPA has always found innovative ways to improve air quality in a unique geographical area and I’m looking forward to the challenge of being involved in LRAPA’s day-to-day work.”

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