For More Information: Melissa Aquino Media Relations Officer (858) 974-2259 December 7, 2010

Update on Escondido House Burn Plan

The burn day is set for Thursday, December 9th. The burn window is between 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. *Please be aware weather and safety conditions will dictate the actual burn operation, so the hours could change.*

Reverse 9-1-1 calls will go out to affected residents tomorrow (12/8/2010). Evacuations begin at 7:00 p.m. tomorrow. Sheriff's deputies, Sheriff's Search and Rescue Volunteers and Escondido Police officers will also be knocking on doors to inform the residents about the evacuation notice. There will be increased security patrols in the evacuated areas.

The Red Cross Shelter is at the Clarke Field House Gym of Cal State San Marcos. The address is 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road, CA 92069. The shelter will open at 7:00 p.m. tomorrow (12/8/2010). There is a designated area for pets adjacent to the gym. There are shower facilities. Meals and cots for sleeping will also be provided. Please contact the Red Cross at (858) 309-1200 for more information. If you are planning to evacuate and have "special needs" for transportation or equipment, please contact Don Rawson at (760) 839-5404.

Following the evacuation notice, members of the public will not be allowed back into the affected area until confirmation that the hazards have been eliminated. Please stay at the evacuation site or a temporary shelter of your choosing until there is official notification of reentry. A few laptops with internet access are available at the evacuation site so residents can check updates on www.sdcountyemergency.com. A Red Cross shelter manager is also available to share the latest information with residents. You can also call 2-1-1 or tune in to local TV and radio stations.

I-15 will be closed 30 minutes before the burn and remain closed until safe to re-open (estimated to be 3 hours). *The hours could change depending on weather and safety conditions*. Northbound 15 at SR-78 and Southbound 15 at Center City Parkway will be closed during the burn operation. Freeway signs are now up to alert drivers. There are traffic control points around 1954 Via Scott starting at 3:00 a.m. on the day of the burn (12/9/2010). A map of how Escondido Police plan to divert traffic off of I-15 at Center City Parkway and a map of traffic control points are available at www.sdcountyemergency.com.

The County Board of Supervisors ratified and signed a proclamation of local emergency for the burn plan today.

County HAZMAT is working with state agencies to coordinate, review and finalize the positions of air monitoring equipment. Team members are also meeting to review air monitoring plans and align duties during the burn.

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The San Diego Sheriff's Department is now also on Facebook, Twitter, Nixle and www.sdsheriff.net