



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182  
(909) 396-2000 • [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)

## Clean Air Choices Cleaner Certification Protocol

### I. OVERVIEW

This protocol contains information on how an applicant may obtain a Clean Air Choices Cleaner (CACC) Certificate. Primarily, the CACC is considered an ultra low-volatile organic compound (VOC), ultra low-toxicity product used at commercial and institutional facilities. Other types of products (e.g., household cleaners, automobile soaps, hand soaps, graffiti remover, etc.) will be considered as appropriate.

To be eligible, a product must be submitted to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) laboratory to verify that no prohibited ingredients in quantities of 0.1 percent or greater by weight are present or have been previously certified by an approved third party certification organization such as Green Seal (<http://www.greenseal.org>), U.S. EPA Safer Choice (<https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice>) or EcoLogo (<https://www.ul.com/resources/ecologo-certification-program>). Super compliant means that the product has a VOC content of 10 g/l or less as verified by South Coast AQMD's laboratory or an South Coast AQMD certified independent laboratory, using Test Method 313. This does not include exempting compounds with low vapor pressure, as included in the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Consumer Products Regulation.

The South Coast AQMD will notify applicants of the lab results within 90 days of the receipt of all requested information. A certificate will be issued within 30 days of such notification if the product is approved as a CACC by the South Coast AQMD.

### Information Required

- Name of the product (including chemical name, if any);
- Applicable product category or intended use;
- Name, address, telephone, fax number and e-mail address of the applicant (and contact person, if different);
- Formulation data sheet for the product, if available (*will be treated as confidential if requested*);
- Material data sheet for the product;

- Sealed, labeled, unopened, 1-quart (or more) sample of the product;
- Complete user instructions on how the product is intended to be used, including dilution and/or mixing ratios and any other relevant information;
- *(Optional)* Copy of official letter and/or certificate awarded by an approved third-party certification organization;
- *(Optional)* Website of the product (if product is approved, a hyperlink will be provided on our website).

### Fee Required

At the time of filing for a CACC Certificate, the applicant must submit a fee for each product to be tested. This fee includes the Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS) analysis for five or fewer compounds, one (1) hour time and material, and the certificate.

These fees are taken from South Coast AQMD Rule 301 – Permitting and Associated Fees (<http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/rule-book/reg-iii/rule-301.pdf>) and will be based on the current version of the rule at the time of submittal.

- *For current fee amount please see: District Rule 301 subdivision (s) – Fees for Certification of Consumer Cleaning Products Used at Institutional and Commercial Facilities.*

### Submittal Address

Clean Air Choices Cleaner Certification  
 Attn: Area Sources  
 Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources  
 South Coast Air Quality Management District  
 21865 Copley Drive  
 Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182

## II. LABORATORY ANALYSIS

The VOC content of the product will be determined by testing the unopened submitted product sample. The analysis will be performed by the South Coast AQMD Laboratory using the most recent version of South Coast AQMD Method 313, Determination of VOC by GC/MS. A product must have a VOC content of 10 g/l or less to be eligible.

In addition, parties that opt to submit products for full laboratory testing must have the South Coast AQMD Laboratory perform GC/MS analysis for the presence, in quantities of 0.1 percent by weight or greater, of the following prohibited compounds:

- Toxic Air Contaminants (TAC) as listed in AB 1807 Toxic Air Contaminant Program (<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/toxic-air-contaminant-identification-reports>)

- Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAP) as listed in Section 112 (b) of the Federal Clean Air Act (<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/orig189.html>)
- Ozone Depleting Compounds (ODC) as listed in 40 CFR Part 82 (<https://www.epa.gov/ozone-layer-protection/ozone-depleting-substances>)
- Global Warming Compounds (GWC) including CF<sub>4</sub> (Perfluoromethane), HFCs (hydrofluorocarbons), HFEs (hydrofluoroethers), PFCs (perfluorocarbons), SF<sub>6</sub> (sulfur hexafluoride) and N<sub>2</sub>O (nitrous oxide) ([Overview of Greenhouse Gases | US EPA](#))
- Heavy Metals including arsenic, lead, cadmium, cobalt, copper, chromium, mercury, nickel and zinc
- Great Waters Pollutants of Concern as listed in U.S. EPA's *Deposition of Air Pollutants to the Great Waters* (<https://archive.epa.gov/airquality/gr8water/web/html/gtwtrs4.html>)
- Carcinogens as listed by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), National Toxicology Program, U.S. EPA or the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (<https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/tri-basis-osh-carcinogens>)
- Carcinogens or Reproductive Toxins as listed in the State of California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65) (<https://oehha.ca.gov/proposition-65/proposition-65-list>)
- Alkylphenol ethoxylates
- Dibutyl phthalates

In lieu of South Coast AQMD testing for the above pollutant concerns, manufacturers can submit approved third-party certifications as noted under Section I above.

If the above procedures are successfully completed, a CACC Certificate will be awarded.

### III. COMPLIANCE AND FIELD AUDITS

A CACC Certificate is valid for three years from the date of issuance and may be renewed upon recertification. The recertification is specified in the most current Rule 301 fees. Any person utilizing a CACC shall comply with the conditions of use stated on the certificate. If a CACC is reformulated, the CACC Certificate will be considered invalid and the new product must be reevaluated to obtain a new certificate.

The Executive Officer may conduct field audits to determine continuous compliance by sampling an unopened product in the field. If the results of the laboratory analysis show that the product no longer meets certification criteria, the Executive Officer may revoke the CACC Certificate.