



South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

PROJECT TITLE: PROPOSED RULE 1179.1 – NOX EMISSION REDUCTIONS FROM COMBUSTION EQUIPMENT AT PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS FACILITIES

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) is the Lead Agency and has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze environmental impacts from the project identified above pursuant to its certified regulatory program (Public Resources Code Section 21080.5, CEQA Guidelines Section 15251(l), and South Coast AQMD Rule 110). The Draft EA includes a project description and analysis of potential adverse environmental impacts that could be generated from the proposed project. The purpose of this letter, the attached Notice of Completion (NOC), and the Draft EA, is to allow public agencies and the public the opportunity to review and comment on the environmental analysis in the Draft EA.

This letter and the attached NOC for the Draft EA are not South Coast AQMD applications or forms requiring a response from you. Their purpose is simply to provide information to you on the above project. If the proposed project has no bearing on you or your organization, no action on your part is necessary. The Draft EA and other relevant documents may be obtained by calling South Coast AQMD's Public Information Center at (909) 396-2039 or accessing the South Coast AQMD's website at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-scaqmd-projects>.

Comments focusing on your area of expertise, your agency's area of jurisdiction, if applicable, or issues relative to the environmental analysis for the proposed project will be accepted during a 30-day public review and comment period beginning Wednesday, August 12, 2020 and ending at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 11, 2020. **Please send any comments relative to the CEQA analysis in the Draft EA to Ms. Kendra Reif (c/o CEQA) at the address shown above.** Comments can also be sent email to kreif@aqmd.gov or via facsimile to (909) 396-3982. Please include the name and phone number of the contact person for your organization. Questions regarding the proposed rule language should be directed to Ms. Melissa Gamoning at (909) 396-3115 or by email to mgamoning@aqmd.gov.

The public is invited to attend the following meetings, subject to change, for the proposed project which will be conducted remotely via video conferencing and by telephone: 1) Stationary Source Committee on August 21, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.; and 2) Governing Board Meeting (Public Hearing) on October 2, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Meeting agendas, which include details on how the public can participate electronically, are posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting and are available from South Coast AQMD's website at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes>.

Date: August 7, 2020

Signature: 

Barbara Radlein
Program Supervisor, CEQA
Planning, Rule Development, and Area Sources

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182

**NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND
OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Project Title: Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for Proposed Rule (PR) 1179.1 – NOx Emission Reductions from Combustion Equipment at Publicly Owned Treatment Works Facilities

Project Location: The project location is the portion within the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) jurisdiction which includes the four-county South Coast Air Basin (all of Orange County and the non-desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties) as defined in the California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Section 60104, and the Riverside County portions of the Salton Sea Air Basin (SSAB) and Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB).

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: PR 1179.1 proposes to establish Best Available Retrofit Control Technology (BARCT) requirements for combustion equipment operated at Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) facilities to reduce emissions of: 1) NOx and CO from boilers, steam generators and process heaters rated greater than 400,000 British thermal units (Btu) per hour fueled by digester gas or a digester gas blend; 2) NOx and CO from turbines rated less than 0.3 megawatt (MW) fueled by digester gas or a digester gas blend; 3) NOx and CO from turbines rated at greater than or equal to 0.3 MW fueled by natural gas, digester gas, or a digester gas blend; and 4) NOx, CO and VOC from engines rated at greater than 50 rated brake horsepower (bhp) fueled by digester gas or a digester gas blend. In addition, PR 1179.1 establishes requirements for POTWs to conduct source tests and monitoring, keep records, and prepare reports. PR 1179.1 is estimated to reduce up to 0.05 ton per day of NOx emissions. The Draft EA did not result in the identification of any environmental topic areas that would be significantly adversely affected by PR 1179.1. Two facilities affected by PR 1179.1 were identified on lists compiled by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control per Government Code Section 65962.5.

Lead Agency:
South Coast Air Quality Management District

Division:
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources

The Draft EA is available from South Coast AQMD's website at:
<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-scaqmd-projects>

or by calling:
(909) 396-2039
or by emailing:
PICrequests@aqmd.gov

PR 1179.1 and all supporting documentation are available from South Coast AQMD's website at:
<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/scaqmd-rule-book/proposed-rules#1179.1>

The Notice of Completion is provided to the public through the following:

Los Angeles Times (August 12, 2020)
 South Coast AQMD Website

South Coast AQMD Mailing List & Interested Parties
 South Coast AQMD Public Information Center

Draft EA Review Period (30 days): August 12, 2020 – September 11, 2020

Scheduled Public Meeting Date(s) (subject to change): The public is invited to attend the following meetings for the proposed project which will be conducted remotely via video conferencing and by telephone: 1) Stationary Source Committee on August 21, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.; and 2) Governing Board Meeting (Public Hearing) on October 2, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Meeting agendas, which include details on how the public can participate electronically, are posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting and are available from South Coast AQMD's website at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes>.

The proposed project will have no statewide, regional or areawide significance; therefore, no CEQA scoping meeting is required for the proposed project pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083.9(a)(2).

Send CEQA Comments to:
Ms. Kendra Reif

Phone:
(909) 396-2492

Email:
kreif@aqmd.gov

Fax:
(909) 396-3982

Direct Questions on PR 1179.1 to:
Ms. Melissa Gamoning

Phone:
(909) 396-3115

Email:
mgamoning@aqmd.gov

Fax:
(909) 396-3982
