

NOTICE OF DECISION

To: Office of the Secretary for Resources
General Counsel's Office
1416 9th Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: SCAQMD
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Subject: Filing of Notice of Decision in compliance with Public Resources Code Section 21080.5(d)(2)(E), CEQA Guidelines Sections 15252(b) and 15094(b), and SCAQMD Rule 110(f)

Project Title: Final Subsequent Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Proposed Amended Rule 1134 – Emissions of Oxides of Nitrogen from Stationary Gas Turbines

Lead Agency: South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)

SCH Number: 2016071006

Date Certified: April 5, 2019

SCAQMD Number: 01292019RB

Contact Person: Ryan Bañuelos

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Project Location: The project will affect facilities subject to Rule 1134 located within the SCAQMD's jurisdiction, which encompasses all of Orange County, the urban portions of Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties southwest of the San Bernardino and San Gabriel mountains, and nearly all of Riverside County, with the exception of communities near the state border.

Project Description: SCAQMD staff has amended Rule 1134 to further reduce emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) from stationary gas turbines from equipment originally subject to the Regulation XX - Regional Clean Air Incentives Market (RECLAIM). Amended Rule 1134 applies to RECLAIM and non-RECLAIM stationary gas turbines that are not otherwise subject to SCAQMD Rule 1135 – Emissions of Oxides of Nitrogen from Electricity Generating Facilities, or located at petroleum refineries, landfills, or publicly owned treatment works. Amended Rule 1134: 1) expanded its applicability to include stationary gas turbines that were not previously required to comply with Rule 1134; 2) updated the NO_x and ammonia emission limits for stationary gas turbines to comply with Best Available Retrofit Control Technology (BARCT); 3) established new exemptions for low-use equipment, certain existing combined cycle gas turbines, and emergency standby gas turbines; 4) provided relief from having to comply with ammonia requirements for turbines that do not use ammonia for controlling NO_x emissions; and 5) revised existing exemptions to remove obsolete provisions. Implementation of amended Rule 1134 is estimated to reduce NO_x emissions by 2.8 tons per day after implementation of the BARCT limits, which is expected to be achieved by retrofitting existing stationary gas turbines with air pollution control equipment (e.g., selective catalytic reduction (SCR) technology/systems installation), or repowering or replacing existing stationary gas turbines.

While reducing emissions of NO_x and other contaminants will create an environmental benefit, activities that facility operators may undertake to comply with amended Rule 1134 may also create secondary adverse environmental impacts in the topic area of hazards and hazardous materials. As such, mitigation measures were crafted to reduce these potentially significant adverse hazards and hazardous materials impacts; however, they could not be mitigated to a level of less than significance. No other environmental topic areas were identified as having potentially significant adverse environmental impacts.

Thus, Findings, a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and a Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan were adopted for this project. This is to advise that the SCAQMD has certified the Final SEA and approved the above described project, and has made the following determinations:

1. The Final SEA was prepared pursuant to SCAQMD's Certified Regulatory Program.
2. The Final SEA concluded that the project will have a significant effect on the environment for the topic of hazards and hazardous materials due to the storage and use of aqueous ammonia.
3. Because the Final SEA concluded that the project may have significant adverse hazards and hazardous materials impacts, mitigation measures were included and were made a condition of approval of the project. A Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21081.6 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15097, was required and adopted for this project. However, no feasible mitigation measures were identified that would reduce the hazards and hazardous materials impacts to a less than significant level while still achieving the project's goals and objectives.
4. Thus, Findings pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15091 and a Statement of Overriding Considerations pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15093 were required and adopted for this project.

The Final SEA, supporting documentation, and record of project approval may be examined at: SCAQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765.

Date Received for Filing

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