



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

PROJECT TITLE: PROPOSED RULES 2700- GENERAL AND 2701 – SOCAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS EXCHANGE

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is the Lead Agency and will prepare a Notice of Exemption for the project identified above.

The SCAQMD has reviewed the proposed project pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines §15002 (k)(1), the first step of a three-step process for deciding which document to prepare for a project subject to CEQA. Proposed Rule 2700 establishes definitions and includes a table of global warming potentials. Proposed Rule 2701 establishes the SoCal Climate Solutions Exchange, which is a voluntary program that quantifies and certifies real GHG emission reductions taking place in California. Proposed Rule 2701 provides a mechanism for the SCAQMD to verify voluntary GHG reduction projects. Once verified, proposed Rule 2701 allows the Executive Officer to issue certified GHG emission reductions using protocols identified in proposed Rule 2701. Both proposed Rules 2700 and 2701 are administrative in nature because the SCAQMD is not involved with funding or generating GHG emission reductions. The proposed rules will not cause any change to the physical environment. Therefore, it can be seen with certainty that the proposed project has no potential to adversely impact air quality or any other environmental area and, as a result, it is exempt from CEQA pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3) – Review for Exemption. The Notice of Exemption will be filed with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties immediately following the adoption of the proposed project.

Any questions regarding this Notice of Exemption should be sent to Michael Krause (c/o Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources) at the above address. Mr. Krause can also be reached at (909) 396-2706.

Date: November 1, 2008

Signature: Steve Smith

Steve Smith, Ph.D.
Program Supervisor
Planning, Rule Development &
Area Sources

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: County Clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino	From: South Coast Air Quality Management District 21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765
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Project Title:

Proposed Rules 2700 – General and 2701 – SoCal Climate Solutions Exchange

Project Location:

South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) area of jurisdiction consisting of the four-county South Coast Air Basin (Orange County and the non-desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties), and the Riverside County portions of the Salton Sea Air Basin and the Mojave Desert Air Basin.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

Proposed Rule (PR) 2700 establishes definitions and includes a table of global warming potentials. PR 2701 establishes the SoCal Climate Solutions Exchange, which is a voluntary program that quantifies and certifies real greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions taking place in California. PR 2701 provides a mechanism for the SCAQMD to verify voluntary GHG reduction projects and also identifies a list of GHG reduction protocols approved by the California Air Resource Board. Once verified, PR 2701 allows the Executive Officer to issue certified GHG emission reductions using protocols identified.

Public Agency Approving Project:

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Agency Carrying Out Project:

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Exempt Status:

General Concepts [CEQA Guidelines §15002 (k)(1)]; and
General Rule Exemption [CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3)]

Reasons why project is exempt:

Both proposed Rules 2700 and 2701 are administrative in nature because the SCAQMD is not involved with funding or generating GHG emission reductions. The proposed rules establish protocols, but will not cause any change to the physical environment. Therefore, it can be seen with certainty that the proposed project has no potential to adversely impact air quality or any other environmental area and, as a result, it is exempt from CEQA pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3) – Review for Exemption.

Certification Date:

SCAQMD Governing Board Hearing: December 5, 2008, 9:00 a.m.; SCAQMD Headquarters

CEQA Contact Person:

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Date Received for Filing _____

Signature *Signed upon certification*

Steve Smith, Ph.D.
Program Supervisor
Planning, Rule Development
and Area Sources