



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 AMENDED REGULATION III – FEES

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 proposed amendments to Regulation III – Fees, include an adjustment by the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) (1.6 percent) pursuant to Rule 320 - Automatic Adjustment Based on CPI for Regulation III Fees. The proposed project also includes an additional six percent increase in fees for permit processing and annual permit renewal, phased in over two years, to address an identified shortfall in costs associated with issuing the permits. The proposed project would increase fees in each of these two categories by three percent for fiscal years 2014/15 and 2015/16.

Pursuant to CEQA, the SCAQMD is the Lead Agency and has reviewed the proposed project mentioned above pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §§15002 (k)(1) and 15061. SCAQMD staff has reviewed the proposed amendments to Regulation III – Fees, and determined them to be statutorily exempt from CEQA requirements pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines §15273 – Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges. A Notice of Exemption has been prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15062 - Notice of 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 Jeff Inabinet (c/o Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources) at the above address. Mr. Inabinet can also be reached at (909) 396-2453.

Date: June 6, 2014

Signature: _____

Michael Krause
Program Supervisor – CEQA Section
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

Project Title:

Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees

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:

The proposed amendments to Regulation III – Fees, include an adjustment by the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) (1.6 percent) pursuant to Rule 320 - Automatic Adjustment Based on CPI for Regulation III Fees. The proposed project also includes an additional six percent increase in fees for permit processing and annual permit renewal, phased in over two years, to address an identified shortfall in costs associated with issuing the permits. The proposed project would increase fees in each of these two categories by three percent for fiscal years 2014/15 and 2015/16.

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:

SCAQMD staff has reviewed the proposed amendments to Regulation III – Fees, and determined them to be statutorily exempt from CEQA requirements pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines §15273 – Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges. The proposed amendments to Regulation III – Fees, have minor fee adjustments to better recover costs and contain administrative amendments.

Project Approval Date:

SCAQMD Governing Board Hearing: May 2, 2014, 9:00 a.m.; SCAQMD Headquarters

CEQA Contact Person:

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Date Received for Filing _____

Signature _____

Michael Krause
Program Supervisor – CEQA Section
Planning, Rule Development
and Area Sources