



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

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

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT**

**PROJECT TITLE: PROPOSED AMENDED RULE 1325 – FEDERAL PM2.5 NEW SOURCE REVIEW PROGRAM**

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

The SCAQMD has reviewed the proposed project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15002 (k)(1) - General Concepts, the first step of a three-step process for deciding which document to prepare for a project subject to CEQA. The proposed amendments do not require any major modifications or changes to existing operations. The SCAQMD has determined that that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed project may have any significant effects on the environment, and is therefore, exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15061 - Review for Exemption, paragraph (b)(3) – “general rule” exemption.

A Notice of Exemption has been prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15062 - Notice of Exemption. If the project is approved, the Notice of Exemption will be filed with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Any questions regarding this Notice of Exemption should be sent to Cynthia Carter (c/o Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources) at the above address. Ms. Carter can also be reached at (909) 396-2431. Mr. Robert Pease is also available at (909) 396-3118 to answer any questions regarding the proposed amended rule.

**Date:** December 5, 2014

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Krause". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Michael Krause  
Program Supervisor, CEQA Section  
Planning, Rules, and Area Sources

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**To:** County Clerks  
Counties of Los Angeles, Orange,  
Riverside and San Bernardino

**From:** South Coast Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

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**Project Title:**

Proposed Amended Rule 1325 – Federal PM<sub>2.5</sub> New Source Review Program

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**Project Location:**

South Coast Air Quality Management District: 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 portion of the Mojave Desert Air Basin.

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**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The proposed amendments to Rule 1325 seek to make administrative changes to the rule's definitions, requirements, and exclusions. A clarification will be added to specify that the rule applies to PM<sub>2.5</sub> and its precursors. The Lowest Achievable Emission Rate (LAER) definition has been modified to reference 40 CFR 51.165 (a)(1)(xiii). A provision is included to specify that approval to construct does not relieve owners and operators of the responsibility to comply fully with applicable provisions of the permit and other requirements under local, State or Federal law. Rule 1315 – Federal New Source Review Tracking System is included to denote that the provisions in Rule 1315 do not apply to Rule 1325. In addition, the provision that stated that Rule 1325 applied as opposed to other Regulation XIII rules was removed. The removal clarifies that Rules 1306 – Emission Calculations and 1309 – Emission Reduction Credits and Short Term Credits apply. Finally, the proposed amendments to Rule 1325 would update existing definitions, and include other minor changes for clarity and consistency throughout the rule.

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**Public Agency Approving Project:**

South Coast Air Quality Management District

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**Agency Carrying Out Project:**

South Coast Air Quality Management District

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**Exempt Status:**

CEQA Guidelines §15002 (k)(1) – General Concepts; and  
CEQA Guidelines §15061 (b)(3) – Review for Exemption

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**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The SCAQMD has reviewed the proposed amendments to Rule 1325 pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15002 (k)(1) - General Concepts, the first step of a three-step process for deciding which document to prepare for a project subject to CEQA. The SCAQMD has determined that that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed project may have any significant effects on the environment, and is therefore, exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15061 - Review for Exemption, paragraph (b)(3) – “general rule” exemption.

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**Project Approval Date:**

SCAQMD Governing Board Hearing: December 5, 2014, 9:00 a.m.; SCAQMD Headquarters

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**CEQA Contact Person:**

Ms. Cynthia Carter

**Phone Number:**

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**Fax Number:**

(909) 396-3324

**Email:**

[ccarter@aqmd.gov](mailto:ccarter@aqmd.gov)

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**Rule Contact Person:**

Mr. Robert Pease

**Phone Number:**

(909) 396-3118

**Fax Number:**

(909) 396-3324

**Email:**

[rpease@aqmd.gov](mailto:rpease@aqmd.gov)

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**Date Received for Filing:**

**Signature:**



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Michael Krause, Program Supervisor  
Planning, Rule Development & Area  
Sources