

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED APPROVAL OF THE REASONABLY AVAILABLE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION AND EMISSIONS STATEMENT CERTIFICATION FOR THE 2015 8-HOUR OZONE STANDARD AND PROPOSED SUBMISSION INTO THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing on the matter of the Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Demonstration and the Emissions Statement Certification for the 2015 8-hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS or Standard) will be held on **June 5, 2020**, in the Auditorium at South Coast AQMD Headquarters, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA at 9:00 a.m., at which time evidence will be taken and all interested persons will be heard by the South Coast AQMD Board. Given the health and safety concerns regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19), please note circumstances may require that the meeting be conducted via webcast with opportunities for public comment. Should the meeting be conducted via webcast or be held subject to special instructions, the public will be notified via the South Coast AQMD website <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes> with instructions on how to participate ahead of time.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the purpose of this hearing is for the South Coast AQMD Governing Board to consider approval of the RACT Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification for the 2015 8-hour Ozone NAAQS and submitting the RACT Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for inclusion into the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the objective of the RACT Demonstration is to determine and certify that existing South Coast AQMD rules and regulations fulfill RACT for the 8-hour Ozone NAAQS. In addition, South Coast AQMD certifies that Rule 301 (Permitting and Associated Fees) fulfills the Clean Air Act (CAA) section 182(a)(3)(B) emissions statement requirements.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that on October 1, 2015, the U.S. EPA lowered the 8-hour Ozone NAAQS to a level of 70 parts per billion (ppb) from the previous 2008 8-hour Ozone NAAQS of 75 ppb.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that effective August 3, 2018, the South Coast AQMD is classified as an “extreme” nonattainment area and the Coachella Valley located in Riverside County is classified as a “severe-15” nonattainment area with respect to the 2015 8-hour Ozone NAAQS (83 FR 25776; June 4, 2018).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the CAA requires that areas classified as moderate nonattainment or higher must develop and submit a demonstration that their current air pollution regulations and emission sources fulfill the 8-hour ozone RACT requirements.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the South Coast AQMD is required to submit a RACT demonstration for the 2015 ozone NAAQS by August 3, 2020 to the U.S. EPA through CARB for inclusion into the SIP. This RACT SIP submittal focuses on Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) emissions which are precursors of ozone.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that RACT demonstration was developed with respect to the 1997 8-hour Ozone Standard in 2006. The 2006 RACT demonstration certified that South Coast AQMD's rules and regulations fulfilled the 1997 8-hour Ozone RACT requirements and was approved by the U.S. EPA on December 18, 2008 (73 FR 76947; December 18, 2008).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that RACT Demonstration was developed with respect to the 2008 8-hour Ozone Standard in 2014. The 2014 RACT demonstration certified that South Coast AQMD's rules and regulations fulfilled the 2008 8-hour Ozone RACT requirements and was approved by the U.S. EPA on October 20, 2017 (82 FR 43850; October 20, 2017).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the 2015 8-hour Ozone RACT Demonstration was conducted based on the evaluation of the U.S. EPA's Control Techniques Guidelines (CTGs) and more than 60 rules and regulations adopted or amended since March 2014 through February 2020 by other air districts in California and state agencies in states which were highly impacted by ozone pollution.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that based on staff's analysis for RACT demonstration, it is concluded that:

- For the U.S. EPA's CTG category of Automobile and Light-Duty Truck Assembly Coatings, South Coast AQMD Rule 1115 (Motor Vehicle Assembly Line Coating Operations, last amended in 1995) is not as stringent as the U.S. EPA's 2008 CTG requirements for several coatings and products for facilities emitting greater than 15 pounds per day. South Coast AQMD commits to amend Rule 1115 to address these deficiencies.
- With the exception of Rule 1115, South Coast AQMD's current rules for all sources of VOC and NOx meet or exceed federal RACT requirements for all applicable sources of NOx and VOC, and meet the U.S. EPA's criteria for RACT acceptability and inclusion into the SIP.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that, per the U.S. EPA's guidance, the South Coast AQMD is also submitting a negative declaration for the U.S. EPA's CTG of Paper, Film and Foil Coatings certifying that there are no active Title V facilities with coating operations subject to Rule 1128 (Paper, Fabric, and Film Coating Operations) without add-on controls that exceed the applicable threshold in the U.S. EPA's CTG.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the CAA section 182(a)(3)(B) requires all ozone nonattainment areas to have in place a program that requires emissions statements from stationary sources of NOx and VOC. South Coast AQMD certifies that Rule 301 (Permitting and Associated

Fees) is adequate and continues to fulfill the CAA emissions statement requirements for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15002(k) and 15061, the proposed RACT Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification for the 2015 8-hour Ozone NAAQS and submitting the RACT Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification for inclusion into the SIP are exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15308. Further, there is no substantial evidence indicating that any of the exceptions to the categorical exemption apply to the proposed project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. A Notice of Exemption will be prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062, and 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.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the South Coast AQMD staff has prepared the following documents relevant to the proposed approval:

- Staff Report for 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Demonstration
- Board Letter for the Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification for 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the above documents may be obtained from the South Coast AQMD website at <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes>, or from: Mr. Jong Hoon Lee, Air Quality Specialist, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, jhlee@aqmd.gov.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the conclusion of the public hearing, the South Coast AQMD Board may make other modifications to the 2015 8-hour Ozone RACT Demonstration and the Emissions Statement Certification, which are justified by the evidence presented, or may decline to approve it.

Questions, comments, or requests for clarification regarding this RACT Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification can be directed to Mr. Jong Hoon Lee, Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, jhlee@aqmd.gov, (909) 396-3903. All CEQA inquiries can be directed to Mr. Ryan Bañuelos, CEQA Section, Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, rbanuelos@aqmd.gov, (909) 396-3479. Interested persons may attend and submit oral or written statements at the Board Hearing. All written materials must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board. Individuals who wish to submit written or electronic comments for review prior to the hearing must submit such comments to the Clerk of the Board, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA, 91765-4178, (909) 396-2500, or to cob@aqmd.gov, on or before Tuesday, May 26, 2020. Electronic submittals will only be accepted if no more than 10 pages including attachments; and in MS Word, plain or HTML format. Otherwise, if more than 10 pages, please submit in paper format as described above.

Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the Governing Board meeting. The agenda will be made available, upon request, in appropriate alternative formats to assist persons with a disability (Gov't Code Section 54954.2(a)). In addition, other documents may be requested in alternative formats and languages. Any disability or language-related accommodation must be requested as soon as practicable. Requests will be accommodated unless providing the accommodation would result in a fundamental alteration or undue burden to the South Coast AQMD. Please contact the Clerk of the Board Office, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, at (909) 396-2500 (for TTY, 909-396-3560) from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to PICrequests@aqmd.gov.

DATED: April 16, 2020

FAYE THOMAS
Clerk of the Board