



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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NEWS

For Immediate Release

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New Law Enables Air Pollution Control Officers to More Quickly Halt Activities Alleged to Endanger Public Health

Gov. Jerry Brown this week signed legislation that will give air districts across the state an important new tool to curtail emissions from a facility when it is alleged to endanger public health.

The legislation, [AB 1132](#), was introduced by state Assembly Member [Cristina Garcia](#) and sponsored by the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

“Previously, in Paramount and other areas across the state, when a facility emitted high levels of toxic air pollutants, seeking an administrative order as a remedy could take months,” said Wayne Nastri, SCAQMD’s executive officer.

The new law will greatly speed the process by allowing executive officers of air pollution control districts to immediately issue an administrative order pending a hearing before the agency’s Hearing Board.

“It’s important to note that this is only possible if an executive officer determines that a facility violation presents an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or welfare or the environment, Nastri said.

“This new law provides additional protection for the breathing public while at the same time protecting due process for a facility alleged to create an imminent and substantial endangerment,” he said.

The law takes effect on Jan. 1, 2018.

SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.