

SCAQMD CEQA Responsibilities, Impact Analysis and Mitigation

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Assessing and Managing Toxic Risk from Alternative VOC Compounds October 29, 2014

CEQA Applicability



- Purpose of CEQA is to inform decision makers and public about potential environmental effects of proposed activities
- Includes regulatory activities undertaken by a Public Agency [CEQA Guidelines §15002(b)]
- Need to evaluate the whole of an action that has direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical changes to the environment [CEQA Guidelines §15378]
- Our analysis includes a preliminary review of 17 environmental topic areas for potentially significant impacts
- If significant, required to apply all feasible mitigation measures
- Prepare appropriate CEQA document and circulate for a required public comment and review period

Environmental Impact Areas



- Aesthetics
- Agriculture, Biological, and Cultural Resources
- Air Quality/Greenhouse Gases
- Energy
- Geology/Soils and Mineral Resources
- Hazards
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Land Use, Population/Housing, Public Services, and Recreation
- Noise
- Solid Waste
- Transportation

VOC Rules: Typical Environmental Analysis



Air Quality Impacts

- Direct criteria pollutant benefit from complying with lower VOC content limits
- Potential indirect impacts from reformulations or replacements (*with water or VOC exempt solvents*)
 - ✓ Potential adverse toxic impact from VOC-exempt solvents
 - ✓ Potential adverse odor impacts
 - ✓ Corresponding GHG impacts

Hazard Impacts

Potential flammability impacts

Hydrology/Water Quality Impacts

Potential water demand from new water-based coatings

Toxic Impact Analysis



Potential Risk

- □ Acute (short-term exposure) non-cancer risk
- Chronic (long-term exposure) non-cancer risk
- Carcinogenic cancer risk

• Receptors

- □ Offsite exposure (to resident or worker) *standard R1401 analysis*
- □ Onsite worker ("occupational") exposure (*indoor or outdoor*)

Offsite Exposure



• Off-site residential or worker receptor

- □ Short-term exposure
 - ✓ Acute REL
- □ Long-term exposure
 - ✓ Cancer risk
 - ✓ Chronic REL
- □ Factors that affect the concentration at receptor
 - ✓ Weight fraction in formulation
 - ✓ Usage amount
 - ✓ Area coverage
 - ✓ Distance from source

Onsite Worker Exposure



Acute and Chronic Non-Cancer Impacts

- □ OSHA enforceable PEL
- □ OEHHA RELs ??

Carcinogenic Impacts

- Potency Value
 - ✓ OSHA PEL is not based on carcinogenic impact
 - ✓ OEHHA published cancer potency
- Risk Assessment Methodologies
 - ✓ Exposure Models
 - > EPA's AERSCREEN / AERMOD
 - > CARB's (or other) "Box" model (*designed for onsite workers*)
 - ✓ Exposure Measurement Studies

Considerations for Onsite Exposure Analysis



- Commercial/Professional Worker
 - □ Short-term and long-term exposure
- Consumer User
 - □ Affects broader population
 - □ Typically low volume use
 - Generally concerned with short-term (acute) exposure
- Risk Threshold for Significance
 - □ No adopted carcinogenic risk threshold for onsite user
 - OEHHA published three target cancer risk levels for occupational exposure (Dec 2007) but not adopted as a threshold
 - 1/1,000 (translates to 1,000 in one million)
 - 1/10,000 (translates to 100 in one million)
 - 1/100,000 (translates to 10 in one million)

Evaluating Feasibility of Mitigation



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- □ Various types provide different levels of protection
- □ Needs to be applicable to organic vapors (*e.g., not dust mask*)
- Exposure reduction based on Assigned Protection Factors (APF)
 - ✓ Half-mask has an APF=10 (90% control efficiency)
 - ✓ Full-mask has an APF =50 (98% control efficiency)

Limits on Usage

Enforcement Considerations

- □ Appropriate enforcement agency (*with training*)
- □ Accordance with OSHA Respiratory Program (*Guidelines 1910.134(c)*)
- Recordkeeping and reporting

CEQA Challenges



- Selection of the onsite risk threshold
- Practicability of limiting usage
 - □ Ability and effectiveness to limit use for certain applications only
 - □ Enforceable limits on usage or reformulation (*based on appropriate target cancer risk level*)

✓ Any requirement must be fully enforceable (CEQA Guidelines §15126.4 (a)(2))

- □ PPE viability
 - ✓ Any requirement must be fully enforceable (CEQA Guidelines §15126.4 (a)(2))
- Recordkeeping and reporting