

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF, OR AMENDMENT TO, THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AND PROPOSED SUBMISSION INTO THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

RE: Proposed Amended Rule 445 – Wood-Burning Devices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing on the matter of adoption of rules and regulations for the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD), or the amendments thereto, will be held on Tuesday, **October 27, 2020**, at 11:00 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), this meeting will be conducted via webcast with opportunities for public comment. Please refer to the instructions on the South Coast AQMD's website for details on how to participate: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes>.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the South Coast AQMD is considering the adoption of Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 445. The air quality objective of the proposed amendments is to implement U.S. EPA contingency measure requirements by October 31, 2020 for South Coast Air Basin (Basin). The proposed amendments would include addition of an ozone-based No-Burn day forecast for the Basin, effective September 1 through April 30. The ozone threshold for No-Burn days would be incrementally lowered automatically for each subsequent final determination by the U.S. EPA of a failure to meet an applicable Clean Air Act milestone. PM_{2.5} rule provisions will remain unchanged, including calling No-Burn days only from November 1 through the end of February. Other minor amendments include revisions/additions to the definition for terms used in the rule and revisions to improve clarity/rule implementation.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that PAR 445 will be submitted to the California Air Resources Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency for inclusion into the State Implementation Plan.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a written analysis pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 40727.2 has been prepared that identifies all existing state and federal air pollution control requirements, all South Coast AQMD existing and proposed rules and regulations, and all air pollution control requirements that apply to the same equipment or source type as the rule proposed for adoption.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15002(k) and 15061, the proposed amendments to Rule 445 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 exemptions 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 for posting with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, and the State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the South Coast AQMD has prepared the following documents relevant to the proposed amended rule including:

- Proposed Amended Rule 445
- Staff Report for Proposed Amended Rule 445
- Comparative Analysis for Proposed Amended Rule 445, included in the Staff Report

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the above documents may be obtained from the South Coast AQMD website at <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/scaqmd-rule-book/proposed-rules>, or by calling the South Coast AQMD's Public Information Center at (909) 396-2001, or from: Ms. Fabian Wesson – Assistant Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, (909) 396-2432, PICrequests@aqmd.gov.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the conclusion of the public hearing, consistent with Health and Safety Code Section 40726, the South Coast AQMD Board may make other modifications to PAR 445, which are justified by the evidence presented, or may decline to adopt it.

Questions, comments, or requests for clarification regarding PAR 445 can be directed to Mr. Henry Pourzand, Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, hpourzand@aqmd.gov, (909) 396-2414. All CEQA inquiries can be directed to Mr. Ryan Banuelos, 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 provide oral statements at the Public Hearing. Individuals who wish to submit written or electronic comments 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 5:00 PM on Wednesday, October 21, 2020.

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. 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, 91765-4178, 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: September 22, 2020

FAYE THOMAS
Clerk of the Boards