

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED CERTIFICATION OF NONATTAINMENT NEW SOURCE REVIEW AND CLEAN FUELS FOR BOILERS COMPLIANCE DEMONSTRATION FOR 2015 8-HOUR OZONE STANDARD AND PROPOSED SUBMISSION INTO THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) has scheduled a public hearing to present and solicit comments from the public regarding the Certification of Nonattainment New Source Review (NSR) and Clean Fuels for Boilers Compliance Demonstration for 2015 8-hour Ozone Standard (herein referred as Nonattainment NSR and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification) to be held on **Friday, June 4, 2021** 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), the 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 purpose of this hearing is for the South Coast AQMD Board to consider certifying that South Coast AQMD's existing SIP-approved rules and regulations meet the requirements for nonattainment NSR and clean fuels for boilers for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS or standard), and directing staff to submit the Nonattainment NSR and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for its approval and subsequent submittal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for inclusion in the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that in 2015, the U.S. EPA strengthened the 8-hour ozone NAAQS from 75 parts per billion (ppb) to 70 ppb. Effective August 3, 2018, the South Coast Air Basin (Basin) is classified as an Extreme nonattainment area and the Coachella Valley, located in Riverside County, is classified as a Severe nonattainment area for the 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS (83 FR 25776).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the federal Clean Air Act (CAA) requires nonattainment areas to submit a nonattainment NSR plan or plan revision. For Extreme nonattainment areas, the use of clean fuels or advanced control technologies are required for electric utility and industrial and commercial boilers emitting more than 25 tons of NO_x per year, as set forth in § 182(e)(3) of the CAA.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that according to the U.S. EPA's 2018 final rule detailing the nonattainment SIP implementation requirements for the 2015 ozone NAAQS (83 FR 62998), the SIP submittal addressing both nonattainment NSR and clean fuels for boilers requirements must be submitted to the U.S. EPA no later than August 3, 2021.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that in 2017, South Coast AQMD submitted a certification of the Nonattainment NSR Compliance Demonstration demonstrating that South Coast AQMD's NSR regulations meet the nonattainment NSR requirements for the 2008 ozone NAAQS, which U.S. EPA subsequently approved in 2018 (83 FR 64026).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that South Coast AQMD's current SIP-approved nonattainment NSR program, which covers both the Basin and the Coachella Valley, applies to new major stationary sources or major modification to existing sources, and is at least as stringent as the requirements at the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 51.165) for ozone and its precursors. Therefore, no changes are necessary to the South Coast AQMD's nonattainment NSR program to comply with the 2015 ozone standard nonattainment NSR requirements.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the clean fuels for boilers requirements set forth in the CAA are fulfilled through South Coast AQMD's SIP-approved Rule 1146 (Emissions of NO_x from Industrial, Institutional,

and Commercial Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters), Rule 2002 (Allocations for NOx and SOx), Rule 2004 (Requirements for RECLAIM), and Rule 1303 (Requirements for NSR), which regulate NOx emissions from existing, new or modified boilers.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Nonattainment NSR and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification satisfies the requirements for implementing the 2015 ozone NAAQS.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the draft Nonattainment NSR and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification was released on April 6, 2021 for public review. Written Comments received on or before April 26, 2021 will be addressed and included in the draft final Nonattainment NSR and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification to be released on or before May 4, 2021.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Nonattainment NSR and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification will be presented to the South Coast AQMD Stationary Source Committee on May 21, 2021.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the draft Nonattainment NSR and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification is available at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/clean-air-plans/air-quality-mgt-plan> or may be obtained from the South Coast AQMD's publication request line at (909) 396-2001, or from: Mr. Derrick Alatorre – Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, (909) 396-2432, dalatorre@aqmd.gov.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the conclusion of the public hearing, the South Coast AQMD Board may certify or make other modifications to the Nonattainment NSR and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification, which is justified by the evidence presented, or may decline to certify it.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that at the conclusion of the public hearing, if approved by the South Coast AQMD Board, the Nonattainment NSR and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification will be submitted to the CARB and the U.S. EPA for inclusion in the SIP.

Questions, comments or requests for clarification regarding the Nonattainment NSR and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification can be directed to Mr. Jong Hoon Lee, Planning, Rule Development, and Area Sources, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182, jhlee@aqmd.gov, (909) 396-3903.

Interested persons may provide oral statements at the Public Hearings. Individuals who wish to submit written or electronic comments must submit such comments to the Clerk of the Boards, 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 Tuesday, June 1, 2021.

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 Boards 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: April 22, 2021

FAYE THOMAS
Clerk of the Boards