PROPOSED RULE 1148.2 – NOTIFICATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR OIL AND GAS WELLS AND CHEMICAL SUPPLIERS

February 20, 2013 - 2:00 P.M.
West Angeles Church of God in Christ
Multipurpose Building
3045 Crenshaw Blvd
Los Angeles, CA

February 20, 2013 - 6:00 P.M.
Wilmington Senior Citizen Center
1371 Eubank Ave.
Wilmington, CA

Purpose of This Meeting
The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) has scheduled two public consultation meetings to present and solicit information and suggestions from the public regarding Proposed Rule (PR) 1148.2 – Notification and Reporting Requirements for Oil and Gas Wells and Chemical Suppliers.

Rule Background
On October 5, 2012, the AQMD Governing Board directed staff to initiate rule development to determine if existing AQMD regulations adequately cover oil and gas production activities when conducting hydraulic fracturing. AQMD staff was directed to report back to the Governing Board on the rule development status by February 15, 2012.

PR 1148.2 is a new rule that seeks to gather air-quality related information on oil and gas well drilling, reworks, and well completion activities, such as hydraulic fracturing and other well production stimulation operations. The rule establishes requirements for owners or operators of onshore oil and gas wells within the AQMD’s jurisdiction to notify the Executive Officer of the well completion activities and after the activities have occurred, report on the chemicals used as well as air quality-related operations involved in the processes. This rule will also impact suppliers that provide or supply chemicals used in drilling, rework, and well completion fluids.

Proposed Rule and Objective
PR 1148.2 establishes notification and reporting requirements for all oil and gas well drilling, reworks, and well completion activities where air quality-related emissions may occur. PR 1148.2 requires owners or operators of oil and gas wells to notify the AQMD when and where any well drilling, redrilling, reworking, hydraulic fracturing, or other well completion activities will occur. Following completion of the well activities, PR 1148.2 requires that information be submitted to the District that identifies the names and quantities of chemicals used and other process operation parameters in order for AQMD to assess the air pollution emission potential of each well activity. With the exception of trade secret information, PR1148.2 also requires the AQMD to make specific information reported to the AQMD available to the public by posting relevant data on the AQMD’s website.
California Environmental Quality Act
SCAQMD staff has reviewed Proposed Rule 1148.2 and because it only consists of feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which have not been approved, adopted or funded, staff has concluded that it is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15262 – Feasibility and Planning Studies, and CEQA Guidelines §15306 - Information Collection. If approved by the Governing Board a Notice of Exemption will be prepared for the proposed project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15062 - Notice of Exemption.

Available Supporting Documents
The following supporting documents are available:
- Proposed Rule 1148.2
- Draft Staff Report

To Obtain Copies of the Available Supporting Documents
Copies of the proposed rule will be available at the public consultation meeting and may be obtained at http://www.aqmd.gov/rules/proposed.html#1148.2, or by contacting:

Derrick Alatorre
Public Information Center
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA  91765
(909) 396-3122

Submission of Documents or Comments
You are invited to attend the meeting and may also send comments, documents or other information relevant to the proposed amended rules to:

Edward Eckerle, Program Supervisor
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA  91765
(909) 396-3128
eckerle@aqmd.gov

Written comments on this rule should be submitted by Friday March 8, 2013.