



## California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance

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March 18, 2016

Susan Nakamura

Director of Strategic Initiatives, Stationary VOC Rules and Air Toxics Rules

South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive

Diamond Bar, CA 91765

RE: PAR 1402 and Voluntary Early Risk Reduction Program

Dear Susan,

CCEEB is grateful for the opportunity to provide comments on initial staff concepts for Rule 1402 amendments (PAR 1402). In particular, we are very pleased to see the progress being made towards a new voluntary early risk reduction program and we support the framework laid out at the March 2 working group meeting. What follows are general comments on PAR 1402.

### **Voluntary Early Risk Reduction Program**

- Eligibility: we appreciate that eligibility criteria are inclusive, and that most facilities should be able to voluntarily enter the program. However, we'd like greater clarity about two situations involving backlogged HRAs:
  - First, are there any facilities that have a first-ever HRA submitted to the District but not yet approved? Staff may wish to consider whether this could be an issue.
  - Second, PAR 1402 should make clear that a facility with any previously approved HRA would still be eligible even if a subsequently submitted HRA is pending approval by the District.
- Voluntary Risk Reduction Plans (VRRPs): consider adding a mechanism to allow facilities to revise a VRRP should unforeseen issues arise during implementation or better control strategies are later identified.
- VRRP Risk Scores: at the working group, stakeholders asked for a published methodology or guidance for how staff will quantify risk scores. There was also interest in learning more about "other refinements" to the scoring system. As this work develops, we ask staff to consider the following situations:
  - Facilities that need to adjust emissions to reflect reductions made since the time of the last quadrennial ATIR.

- Facilities that wish to submit an updated, but not yet approved, HRA or HARP results to help demonstrate that the risk score is  $\leq 10$ .
- Schedule and Timing: we are still evaluating the schedule in order to understand if enough time is being given for the VRRP, particularly in cases where permitting hurdles could delay implementation. We will provide further comments soon.
- Modified Public Notification: CCEEB agrees with staff concepts. We would be pleased to help develop the notification language for the District's website and annual report.
  - Notification of VRRP extension: this should be done as part of the annual report. Facilities that are granted extensions would continue to be listed as program participants on the District's website.

### **Other Amendments to Rule 1402**

- Pre-ATIR Data Submittal: please engage facilities and other stakeholders as staff develops reporting templates and other details for the pre-ATIR submittal. We are still evaluating this concept to ensure that it effectively streamlines the AB 2588 process without unnecessarily adding to administrative burden.
- Program Streamlining and Rule Schedule: we continue to evaluate the shortened submission and risk reduction schedules and will provide further comments soon.

CCEEB looks forward to continuing work with staff on PAR 1402. In the meantime, please contact me or Janet Whittick of CCEEB (415-512-7890 or [billq@cceeb.org](mailto:billq@cceeb.org) and [janetw@cceeb.org](mailto:janetw@cceeb.org)) with any questions or should you wish to discuss out comments in more detail. We thank you and your staff for your efforts on the voluntary and early risk reduction program. We are hopeful that this program will serve as a valuable model for other air districts in California.

Sincerely,



Bill Quinn

CCEEB Vice President and South Coast Air Project Manager

cc: Dr. Phillip Fine, SCAQMD  
 Mike Morris, SCAQMD  
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 Janet Whittick, CCEEB  
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 CCEEB South Coast Air Project Members