

# **South Coast Air Quality Management District**

## **Notice of Public Workshop**

### **PROPOSED RULE 1480 – AMBIENT MONITORING AND SAMPLING OF METAL TOXIC AIR CONTAMINANTS**

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

2:00 p.m.

South Coast AQMD Headquarters, Auditorium

21865 Copley Drive

Diamond Bar, CA 91765

#### **Purpose of This Meeting**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) has scheduled a public workshop for the purpose of soliciting information and suggestions from the public on Proposed Rule (PR) 1480 – Ambient Monitoring and Sampling of Metal Toxic Air Contaminants. PR 1480 is scheduled to be adopted at a Public Hearing before the South Coast AQMD Governing Board on December 6, 2019.

#### **Proposed Rule 1480 Background and Objectives**

PR 1480 is an ambient monitoring rule for metal toxic air contaminants that will apply to facilities that are posing a high health risk to sensitive receptors and meet other criteria specified in the proposed rule. Ambient monitoring is needed for these facilities as they are implementing permanent pollution controls. PR 1480 establishes a process which will require an owner or operator of a facility to conduct ambient monitoring and sampling of metal toxic air contaminants if the facility meets specific criteria. The process includes an initial notice, information gathering, notice of findings, and notice to the facility if it has been designated based on the criteria specified in the proposed rule. A facility that is required to conduct ambient monitoring and sampling will be required to submit a Monitoring and Sampling Plan for approval, and conduct ambient monitoring and sampling. PR 1480 includes: an alternative monitoring and sampling option by which the South Coast AQMD will conduct ambient monitoring and sampling for the facility and be reimbursed by the facility; provisions to reduce the sampling frequency; and provisions to cease monitoring and sampling. PR 1480 will affect facilities which use equipment or have processes with the potential to emit metal toxic air contaminants, such as metal working, metal melting, metal finishing, cement manufacturers, etc. PR 1480 requires monitoring and sampling with no emission reductions.

#### **California Environmental Quality Act**

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and South Coast AQMD Rule 110, the South Coast AQMD, as lead agency for the proposed project, has reviewed Proposed Rule 1480 in accordance with: 1) CEQA Guidelines Section 15002(k) – General Concepts, the

three-step process for deciding which document to prepare for a project subject to CEQA; and 2) CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 – Review for Exemption, procedures for determining if a project is exempt from CEQA.

South Coast AQMD staff has determined that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Therefore, the project is considered to be exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption. Furthermore, the proposed project is considered to be categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 – Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment, because it is designed to protect or enhance the environment, and CEQA Guidelines Section 15306 – Information Collection because it will consist of basic data collection, research and resource evaluation activities that will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. South Coast AQMD staff has determined that there is no substantial evidence indicating that any of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 – Exceptions, apply to the proposed project. A Notice of Exemption will be prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062 - Notice of Exemption. If the project is approved, the Notice of Exemption will be filed with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Comments and suggestions regarding the CEQA analysis may be directed to:

Mr. Luke Eisenhardt  
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources, CEQA Section  
South Coast Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
Phone: (909) 396-2324  
Fax: (909) 396-3982  
Email: [leisenhardt@aqmd.gov](mailto:leisenhardt@aqmd.gov)

### **Available Supporting Documents**

The following supporting documents will be made available on or before the public workshop:

- Proposed Rule 1480 – Ambient Monitoring and Sampling of Metal Toxic Air Contaminants
- Preliminary Draft Staff Report for Proposed Rule 1480

### **To Obtain Copies of the Above Documents**

Copies of the proposed rule and the preliminary draft staff report are available and may be obtained from:

Ms. Fabian Wesson  
Public Information Center  
South Coast Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Phone: (909) 396-2001  
Email: [PICrequests@aqmd.gov](mailto:PICrequests@aqmd.gov)

The documents are also available for download from the South Coast AQMD website at:  
<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/rules/proposed-rules>

### **Submission of Documents or Comments**

You are invited to attend the meeting and may also send comments, documents, studies, reports, or other information relevant to the proposed rule listed above to:

Mr. Min Sue  
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources  
South Coast Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
Phone: (909) 396-3241  
Email: [msue@aqmd.gov](mailto:msue@aqmd.gov)

Written comments on this proposed rule should be submitted by October 8, 2019.