

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP
PROPOSED AMENDED RULE 1325 – FEDERAL
PM_{2.5} NEW SOURCE REVIEW PROGRAM**

Wednesday, October 24, 2018

2:00 P.M.

South Coast Air Quality Management District Headquarters
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Auditorium

PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC WORKSHOP

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has scheduled a public workshop for the purpose of soliciting information, comments, and suggestions from the public and affected businesses regarding Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 1325 – Federal PM_{2.5} New Source Review Program. This notice serves to inform the public, manufacturers, and potentially affected businesses of the proposed amendments. PAR 1325 is tentatively scheduled to be adopted at a Public Hearing before the SCAQMD Governing Board on January 4, 2019.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The objective of PAR 1325 is to address deficiencies in the 2016 rule amendment identified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). In 2016, the SCAQMD requested the U.S. EPA reclassify the South Coast Air Basin as a “serious” nonattainment area for the 2006 PM_{2.5} 24-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standards. That reclassification necessitated an amendment to the Rule 1325 definition of “major polluting facility” to align the associated major source emission threshold from 100 to 70 tons per year for PM_{2.5} and PM_{2.5} precursors. In addition, the definition of “precursor” was expanded to include volatile organic compounds (VOC) and ammonia (NH₃), as required under U.S. EPA’s 2016 implementation rule for PM_{2.5} State Implementation Plans and a court decision requiring states to regulate PM_{2.5} under the same part of the Federal Clean Air Act as PM₁₀. The 2016 amendment expanded the definition of “precursor”, however, it did not expand the definition of “regulated NSR pollutant”, which references PM_{2.5} precursors, but does not explicitly include VOC and NH₃. This amendment will address the deficiency by adding VOC and NH₃ to the definition of “regulated NSR pollutant”. In addition, the proposed amendment will clarify rule language, remove outdated language and enhance formatting.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and SCAQMD Rule 110, the SCAQMD, as lead agency for the proposed project, SCAQMD staff has reviewed PAR 1325 pursuant to: 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. SCAQMD 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) – Activities Covered by General Rule. Additionally, because the SCAQMD is revising definitions to ensure the California State Implementation Plan (SIP) complies with the Clean Air Act (CAA), without exercising discretion with regard to the proposed amendments, the project is considered to be ministerially exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15268 – Ministerial Projects. Furthermore, the proposed amendments to Rule 1325 are categorically exempt because they are considered actions to protect or enhance the environment pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 – Actions by Regulatory

Agencies for Protection of the Environment. A Notice of Exemption will be prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062 - Notice of Exemption. If the proposed 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
Email: leisenhardt@aqmd.gov

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

The following supporting document will be made available on October 10, 2018:

- Proposed Amended Rule 1325 – Federal PM_{2.5} New Source Review Program

TO OBTAIN COPIES OF THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS

Copies of the proposed amended rule 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) 396-2432
Email: PICrequests@aqmd.gov

The documents are also available for download from the SCAQMD 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 amended rule listed above to:

Ms. Nicole Silva
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Phone: (909) 396-3384
Email: nsilva@aqmd.gov

Written comments on this proposed amended rule should be submitted by November 7, 2018.