



South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
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SUBJECT: NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF A DRAFT SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

PROJECT TITLE: PROPOSED AMENDED RULE 1168 – ADHESIVE AND SEALANT APPLICATIONS

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) is the Lead Agency and has prepared a Draft Subsequent Environmental Assessment (SEA) to analyze environmental impacts from the project identified above pursuant to its certified regulatory program (Public Resources Code Section 21080.5, CEQA Guidelines Section 15251(l), and South Coast AQMD Rule 110). Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15152, 15162, and 15385, the Draft SEA tiers off of: 1) the previously certified Final SEA prepared for the November 4, 2022 amendments to Rule 1168; and 2) the previously certified Final Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared for the October 6, 2017 amendments to Rule 1168.

This letter, the Notice of Completion (NOC), and the Draft SEA are not South Coast AQMD applications or forms requiring a response from you. Their purpose is simply to provide information to you on the proposed project. **No action on your part is necessary if the proposed project has no bearing on you or your organization.** The proposed project's description, location, and potential adverse environmental impacts are summarized in the NOC. Information on how to obtain the Draft SEA and other relevant documents is also provided in the attached NOC.

The NOC has been filed for posting with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. The NOC and Draft SEA have also been electronically filed with the State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation to be posted on their CEQAnet Web Portal which, upon posting, may be accessed via the following weblink: <https://ceqanet.lci.ca.gov/search/recent>. In addition, the NOC and Draft SEA and other relevant documents have been electronically posted on the South Coast AQMD's webpage which can be accessed via the following weblink: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-scaqmd-projects>.

Comments focusing on your area of expertise, your agency's area of jurisdiction, if applicable, or issues relative to the environmental analysis for the proposed project will be accepted during a 46-day public review and comment period beginning September 18, 2026 and ending at 5:00 p.m. on November 3, 2026. Please send any comments relative to the CEQA analysis in the Draft SEA to Sina Taghvaei, Ph.D., via email to staghvaei@aqmd.gov, or by mail (c/o PRDI/CEQA) to the address shown above. Please include the name, phone number and email address of the contact person, and the organization name, if applicable. Questions regarding the proposed amended rule language should be directed to Mojtaba Moghani, Ph.D, at (909) 396-2527 or by email to MMoghani@aqmd.gov.

The proposed project will be considered at the Governing Board Meeting (Public Hearing) on December 4, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. (subject to change). The Public Hearing agenda with details on how the public can participate will be posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting on South Coast AQMD's website at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes>.

NOTICE OF COMPLETION (NOC) OF A DRAFT SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA) AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

To: County Clerks for the Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino; and Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation

From: South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD)
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Project Title: Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 1168 – Adhesive and Sealant Applications

Project Location: The proposed project is located in the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) jurisdiction, which includes the four-county South Coast Air Basin (all of Orange County and the non-desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties), and the Riverside County portion of the Salton Sea Air Basin and the non-Palo Verde, Riverside County portion of the Mojave Desert Air Basin.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: PAR 1168 proposes to: 1) extend the parachlorobenzotrifluoride (pCBtF) prohibition date for Roof Adhesive Primers to allow more time for reformulations; 2) delay the effective dates of volatile organic compound (VOC) emission limits for three categories of adhesives and sealants to allow more time for reformulations; 3) include equivalent alternative reactivity-based limits for Top and Trim Adhesives and Roof Adhesive Primers; 4) delete the exemption that allows facilities to use up to 55-gallons of non-compliant products per year; 5) require manufacturers to provide a list of their distributors annually; 6) transition reporting to a recordkeeping requirement for distributors; 7) include a new category for battery adhesives with an extended pCBtF prohibition date; and 8) provide clarifications, updates to definitions, and cross references to maintain consistency with other South Coast AQMD rules. PAR 1168 is expected to result in delayed VOC emission reductions of 0.115 ton per day (tpd) from Top and Trim Adhesives until January 1, 2030; 0.020 tpd from Rubber Vulcanization Adhesives until January 1, 2029; and 0.011 tpd from Clear, Paintable, Immediately Water-Resistant Sealant until January 1, 2028. Extending the pCBtF prohibition date for Roof Adhesive Primers would also delay the benefit of reducing the use of and exposure to pCBtF, a known carcinogen. The Draft SEA concluded that significant and unavoidable adverse environmental impacts may occur for air quality during operation. No other significant adverse impacts were identified. While products subject to PAR 1168 may be used at facilities and other locations within the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction that may be identified on lists compiled by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control per Government Code Section 65962.5, implementation of PAR 1168 will not alter the status of the facilities and other locations on these lists. Delaying the compliance dates in PAR 1168 for certain adhesives and sealants will benefit manufacturers by providing additional time to reformulate these products in response to the needs highlighted in the technology assessment while avoiding market disruptions and allowing temporary continued access to users of these commercially available products.

Lead Agency: South Coast AQMD

Division: Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation

The NOC, Draft SEA and all supporting documentation are available from:

- 1) South Coast AQMD website at <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-scaqmd-projects>;
 - 2) South Coast AQMD Public Information Center by email at PICrequests@aqmd.gov and by phone at (909) 396-2039; and
 - 3) State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation website at <https://ceqanet.lci.ca.gov/search/recent>.
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The Draft SEA tiers off of the following referenced documents:

- 1) **November 2022 Final SEA for Rule 1168**, which is available from South Coast AQMD's website at: <https://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-scaqmd-projects/south-coast-aqmd-projects---year-2022>; and
- 2) **October 2017 Final SEA for Rule 1168**, which is available from South Coast AQMD's website at: <https://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-scaqmd-projects/scaqmd-projects---year-2017>.

PAR 1168 and all supporting documentation are available from South Coast AQMD's website at: <https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/scaqmd-rule-book/proposed-rules/rule-1168>.

The NOC is provided to the public through the following:

- ☒ Los Angeles Times (September 18, 2026) ☒ South Coast AQMD Mailing List & Interested Parties
 - ☒ South Coast AQMD Website ☒ South Coast AQMD Public Information Center
 - ☒ State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation Website
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Draft SEA Review Period (46 days): September 18, 2026 to November 3, 2026

Scheduled Public Meeting Date(s) (subject to change): PAR 1168 will be considered by the Governing Board at a Public Hearing on December 4, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. (subject to change). The Governing Board Meeting agenda with details on how the public can participate will be posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting on South Coast AQMD's website at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes>.

Send CEQA Comments to:

Sina Taghvaei, Ph.D.

Phone:

(909) 396-2192

Email:

staghvaei@aqmd.gov

Direct Questions on PAR 1168 to:

Mojtaba Moghani, Ph.D.

Phone:

(909) 396-2527

Email:

MMoghani@aqmd.gov

Date Received for Filing: _____

Signature:



September 17, 2026

Kevin Ni
Program Supervisor, CEQA
Planning, Rule Development, and
Implementation