## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

## PROPOSED SOUTH COAST AIR BASIN CONTINGENCY MEASURE SIP REVISION FOR THE 2015 8-HOUR OZONE STANDARD AND PROPOSED SUBMISSION INTO THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing on the matter of adoption of the South Coast Air Basin Contingency Measure State Implementation Plan (SIP) Revision for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard (South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision) for the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) will be held on Friday, August 1, 2025 (subject to change) in the Dr. William A. Burke Auditorium at South Coast AQMD Headquarters, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, at 9:00 a.m., at which time evidence will be taken and all interested persons will be heard by the South Coast AQMD Governing Board. The meeting will be conducted through a hybrid format of in-person and/or virtual attendance via videoconferencing and by telephone with opportunities for public comment. Please refer to the instructions on South Coast AQMD's website for details on how to participate: <a href="http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes">http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes</a>.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the South Coast Air Basin (Basin) is an "extreme" nonattainment area for the 2015 8-hour ozone standard. South Coast AQMD adopted the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) to address federal Clean Air Act (CAA) requirements applicable to "extreme" nonattainment areas and meet the standard by 2037. The 2022 AQMP was submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) via the California Air Resources Board (CARB) in February 2023.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that at the time the 2022 AQMP was adopted, U.S. EPA was developing a revised contingency measure guidance as courts had invalidated certain aspects of its prior interpretation of contingency measure requirements. Due to the lack of guidance, the 2022 AQMP did not formally address contingency measure requirements but committed to address them once U.S. EPA issued new guidance.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that on December 3, 2024, U.S. EPA finalized the new contingency measure guidance. The South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision has been developed in response to the new guidance.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision contains contingency measures for both stationary and mobile sources that address ozone precursors, nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOC). The contingency measures achieve additional reductions beyond the controls required to attain the standard and include a triggering mechanism to ensure that the measures will be automatically implemented upon qualifying events such as a failure to attain or achieve a reasonable further progress milestone.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision will be submitted to the U.S. EPA for inclusion in the SIP via CARB.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15002(k) and 15061, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15308. Further, there is no substantial evidence indicating that any of the exceptions to the categorical exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply to the proposed project. A Notice of Exemption will be prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062 and if the proposed project is approved, the Notice of Exemption will be filed for posting with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties, and the State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the Draft South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision was released for a public review and comment period from April 24, 2025 to May 30, 2025.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that a Public Consultation Meeting for the South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision was held on May 20, 2025.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the Draft South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision and all supporting documents are available at: <a href="https://www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/air-quality-management-plans/other-state-implementation-plan-(sip)-revisions/south-coast-contingency-sip-revision-for-2015-8-hour-ozone-standard. The Draft South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision may also be obtained from South Coast AQMD's Public Information Center at (909) 396-2001, or from Lisa Tanaka, Deputy Executive Officer / Public Advisor, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, (909) 396-2432, <a href="mailto:PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov">PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov</a>.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that at the conclusion of the public hearing, the South Coast AQMD's Governing Board may adopt the South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision or variations of the South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision, which are justified by the evidence presented, or may decline to adopt all or part of the South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision.

Additional information or comments on the South Coast Ozone Contingency SIP Revision can be directed to: Sang-Mi Lee, Ph.D., Planning and Rules Manager, <u>AQMPteam@aqmd.gov</u>. Inquiries about CEQA can be directed to: Farzaneh Khalaj, Ph.D., <u>fkhalaj@aqmd.gov</u>, (909) 396-3022. Comments and inquiries can also be submitted to the attention of the above person(s) to Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765.

Interested persons may attend and provide oral or written statements on any or all of the documents listed above at the Public Hearing. Ten (10) copies of all hard copy written materials must be submitted to the Clerk of the Boards. Individuals who wish to submit written or electronic comments must submit such comments to the Clerk of the Boards, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178, (909) 396-2500, or to cob@aqmd.gov, on or before 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 29, 2025.

## Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility

Disability and language-related accommodations including translation services can be requested to allow participation in the public hearing. The meeting materials will be made available, upon request, in appropriate alternative formats to assist persons with a disability (Gov. Code Section 54954.2(a)). In addition, other documents may be requested in alternative formats and languages. Any disability or language-related accommodation must be requested as soon as practicable. Requests will be accommodated unless providing the accommodation would result in a fundamental alteration or undue burden to the South

Coast AQMD. Requests can be sent to the Clerk of the Boards, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA, 91765-4178, at (909) 396-2432 (for TTY, 909-396-3560) from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to <a href="mailto:cob@aqmd.gov">cob@aqmd.gov</a>.

DATED: May 15, 2025 FAYE THOMAS
Clerk of the Boards