

South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Notice of Public Workshop

**Proposed Amended Rule 445 – Wood-Burning Devices**

Tuesday, May 20, 2025  
10:30 a.m.

Join Zoom Webinar Meeting – from PC or Laptop

<https://scaqmd.zoom.us/j/95769072739>

Zoom Webinar ID: 957 6907 2739

Teleconference Dial-In: +1 (669) 900-6833

*(Please note if the Zoom meeting link provided does not work, copy the link into web browser, or directly enter the meeting ID into the Zoom web or mobile application)*

The Public Workshop will be conducted via video conferencing (Zoom) which can be accessed via your computer or smart phone. Alternatively, stakeholders can phone-in to participate. Instructions on how to participate can be found at the top of this notice.

**Purpose of This Meeting**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) has scheduled a Public Workshop to present and solicit information and suggestions from the public on Proposed Amended Rule 445 – Wood-Burning Devices (PAR 445) to achieve the air quality objective of meeting the 2012 Annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). PAR 445 is scheduled for a Public Hearing before the South Coast AQMD Governing Board on September 5, 2025 (subject to change).

**Background**

Rule 445 – Wood-Burning Devices was adopted in 2008. The rule requires owners and operators of a wood-burning device to refrain from operating their wood-burning devices when the daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> is forecasted to reach high levels due to air emissions and stagnant weather conditions during the wood-burning season (beginning of November through the end of February). Burning wood contributes to the formation of particulate matter with a diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) in the air. Because the South Coast Air Basin did not meet the 2012 Annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS, additional reductions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions are needed.

**Proposed Amended Rule and Objectives**

The primary objective of PAR 445 is to comply with federal Clean Air Act requirements and to implement control measure BCM-18 – Further Emissions Reductions from Wood-Burning Fireplaces and Wood Stoves to assist in complying with the South Coast Air Basin Attainment Plan for the 2012 Annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> Standard. PAR 445 will lower the mandatory wood-burning curtailment threshold from 29 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m<sup>3</sup>) to 25 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The proposal will also remove the existing low-income exemption and include other updates such as clarifications and removing outdated provisions.

**California Environmental Quality Act**

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and South Coast AQMD's certified regulatory program (Public Resources Code Section 21080.5 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15251(l); codified in South Coast AQMD Rule 110), the South Coast AQMD, as lead agency, is currently reviewing the proposed project (PAR 445) to determine if it will result in any potential adverse environmental impacts. Appropriate CEQA documentation will be prepared based on the analysis.

## **Available Supporting Documents**

The following supporting documents will be made available on or before May 16, 2025:

- Preliminary Draft of PAR 445; and
- Preliminary Draft Staff Report for PAR 445

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

Copies of the Preliminary Draft of PAR 445 and Preliminary Draft Staff Report may be obtained from:

Lisa Tanaka O'Malley/Public Advisor  
South Coast AQMD  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
Phone: (909) 396-2432  
Email: [PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov](mailto:PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov)

The documents will be available for download from the South Coast AQMD website at:

<https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/scaqmd-rule-book/proposed-rules/rule--445>

## **Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility**

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the Public Workshop. The agenda will be made available, upon request, in appropriate alternative formats to assist persons with a disability (Gov't 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. Please contact Kalam Cheung at (909) 396-3281 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to [kcheung@aqmd.gov](mailto:kcheung@aqmd.gov).

## **Key Contacts for Submitting Questions and Comments**

Attendees are invited to ask questions and make comments during the Public Workshop. Questions, comments, documents, studies, reports, or other relevant information may be directed to the following contacts:

PAR 445:

Ashley Dang  
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CEQA:

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Planning, Rule Development and Implementation, CEQA Section  
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Written comments on PAR 445 will be accepted until **June 3, 2025**.