

South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Notice of Public Consultation Meeting

**Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees and  
Fiscal Year 2026-27 Proposed Budget and Work Program**

**Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees**

March 17, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

Join Zoom Webinar Meeting – from PC or Laptop

<https://aqmd.zoomgov.com/j/1609866633>

Zoom Webinar ID: **160 986 6633**

Teleconference Dial In +1 669 254 5252

**Proposed Budget and Work Program and  
Proposed Amended Regulation III**

April 7, 2026, 1:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Webinar Meeting – from PC or Laptop

<https://aqmd.zoomgov.com/j/1601397449>

Zoom Webinar ID: **160 139 7449**

Teleconference Dial In +1 669 254 5252

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

The Public Consultation meetings will be conducted via video conferencing (Zoom) which can be accessed via your computer or smart phone. Alternatively, stakeholders can phone in to participate. We understand that this is not the same as an in-person public meeting; however, staff will take the time to listen to comments from all stakeholders. You are invited to attend the meetings electronically through Zoom or the phone. Instructions on how to participate can be found at the top of this notice.

**Purpose of Meetings**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) has scheduled two Public Consultation meetings. The primary purpose of the first meeting is to solicit information and suggestions from the public on Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees. The purpose of the second meeting is to present the South Coast AQMD's Proposed Budget and Work Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27 and Proposed Amended Regulation III. These Public Consultation meetings will provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to discuss Proposed Amended Regulation III and the Proposed Budget and Work Program. The Proposed FY 2026-27 Budget and Work Program, fee adjustments, and Proposed Amended Regulation III are scheduled for a Public Hearing before the South Coast AQMD Governing Board on May 1, 2026 (subject to change).

**Regulation III Background**

Regulation III primarily establishes the fee rates and schedules to recover South Coast AQMD's costs of regulating and providing services to permitted sources.

**Summary of Proposed Amendments to Regulation III**

The proposed amendments to Regulation III consist of several components. First, staff is proposing to amend applicable fees in Rules 301, 303, 304, 304.1, 306, 307.1, 308, 309, 311, 313, 314, 315, 316, and 316.2 effective July 1, 2026, to correspond with the 3.2 percent increase in the calendar year 2025 California Consumer Price Index (CPI) pursuant to Rule 320 – Automatic Adjustment Based on Consumer Price Index for Regulation III Fees, as well as a potential increase over the CPI value to address budget shortfalls. Second, staff is proposing rule language clarifications and new or modified fees, which are necessary to provide cost recovery for Regulation III rules including, but not limited to, for Rule 301: adding refund criteria for rejected permit applications and a fee category for laser cutters; and for Rule 303: including diesel particulate matter as a toxic air contaminant and a fee for verifying excess emission fee calculations. In addition, staff is proposing minor administrative changes that include clarifications, deletions, insertions, or corrections to existing rule language which have no fee impact including, but not limited to, for Rule 301: clarifying public notice distribution fee and language on clean fuel fees, changing deadlines for emission reports and payments, allowing periodic invoicing for processing Title V permit initial applications and renewals, and clarifying the preparation activities for which costs are recovered related to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); for Rule 303: clarifying petition filing fees and refund applicability, correcting table headers for Table I, and removing the Consent Calendar table of fees; and for Rule 313: providing that the Executive Officer can adjust fees or reinstate permits in certain circumstances.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

Under CEQA and South Coast AQMD's certified regulatory program (Public Resources Code Section 21080.5, CEQA Guidelines Section 15251(l) and South Coast AQMD Rule 110), the South Coast AQMD, as lead agency, is reviewing the

proposed project (Proposed Amended Regulation III) 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 are expected to be available on or before March 13, 2026:

- Preliminary Draft of Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees
- Preliminary Draft Staff Report for Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees
- Draft Socioeconomic Report for Adjustment Based on Consumer Price Index for Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees

The following additional supporting documents are expected to be available on or before March 31, 2026:

- Proposed Budget and Work Program
- Draft Socioeconomic Impact Assessment will be included in the Draft Staff Report for Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees

**To Obtain Copies of the Above Documents**

Copies of the above documents may be obtained from:

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

The documents will also be available from the South Coast AQMD’s Proposed Rules and Finance websites at:

- <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/scaqmd-rule-book/proposed-rules/regulation-iii>, and
- <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/about/finance>

**Submission of Comments or Documents**

Comments, documents, studies, reports, or other relevant information may be submitted to the following contacts:

Proposed Amendments	Budget and Work Program	CEQA	Socioeconomic
Peter Campbell <a href="mailto:pcampbell@aqmd.gov">pcampbell@aqmd.gov</a> (909) 396-3185	John Kampa <a href="mailto:jkampa@aqmd.gov">jkampa@aqmd.gov</a> (909) 396-3026	Sina Taghvaei, Ph.D. <a href="mailto:stagvaei@aqmd.gov">stagvaei@aqmd.gov</a> (909) 396-2192	Xian-Liang (Tony) Tian, Ph.D. <a href="mailto:ttian@aqmd.gov">ttian@aqmd.gov</a> (909) 396-2323
South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765			

**Written comments relating to the CPI-based fee increase will be accepted until April 3, 2026, if they are to be incorporated into the Rule 320 report required by the Governing Board;** however, late comments about the CPI increase, and comments relating to the other proposed amendments will be accepted and considered until April 14, 2026.

Please note that under California Public Records Act (Gov. Code Section 7920.000 et seq.) your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the public record and can be released to the public on request or posted on the South Coast AQMD website.

**Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility**

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the public consultation meeting. The agenda 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. Please contact Marissa Poon at (909) 396-2119 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to [mpoon@aqmd.gov](mailto:mpoon@aqmd.gov).