

March 5, 2025

Members of the Governing Board
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Dear South Coast Air Quality Management District Board Members,

On behalf of the City of Menifee, we write to express our opposition to Proposed Amended Rules 1111 and 1121, which would establish zero-emission limits for residential and commercial space heating and residential water heating.

Unlike most SCAQMD rules that regulate large stationary sources of air pollution like oil refineries and warehouses, Rules 1111 and 1121 specifically target individual homeowners, apartment buildings, and businesses, meaning families and business owners will directly bear the cost of these rules.

The estimated replacement costs of \$18,500 to \$21,500 for furnaces and \$5,200 to \$8,200 for water heaters will place a significant financial burden on our residents and small businesses, who are already under financial strain and struggling to meet the rising costs of essentials. Additionally, the retrofitting and replacement requirements under these rules will only increase the costs associated with homeownership, rental properties, and small businesses.

Furthermore, we have serious concerns about the capacity of our electric grid. Energy demand has increased exponentially, in large part due to electrification and the rise of energy-intensive technologies. Our power grid has not proven capable of consistently meeting the demand, and power outages and brownouts are increasing in frequency and severity. Public Safety Power Shutoffs are also a reoccurring concern, with the City of Menifee being significantly impacted this past January with numerous power outages lasting several days. These outages pose a serious threat to the health and safety of our community, jeopardizing the delivery of front-line services and increasing the risk of negative health outcomes for vulnerable populations. The transition to electric furnaces and water heaters will impose a significant increase on an overburdened grid, increasing the likelihood of negative impacts on the Menifee community.

For these reasons, the City of Menifee opposes the Proposed Amended Rules 1111 and 1121. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Philip Southard, Public Information and Legislative Affairs Officer, City Executive Office at (951) 723-3873 or psouthard@cityofmenifee.us.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Ricky Estrada, Mayor