



June 6, 2025

Chair Delgado and Members of the Board
South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD)
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Email: cob@aqmd.gov

American Lung Association Support for Proposed Amended Rules 1111 and 1121

Dear Chair Delgado and Members of the Board:

The American Lung Association writes in support of the South Coast Air Quality Management District's efforts to further reduce pollution from appliances through amendments to strengthen Rules 1111 and 1121. This proposed regulatory package will achieve significant emission reductions that are desperately needed for our health. This effort is also consistent with the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), which determined that "[t]he only way to achieve the required NOx reductions is through extensive use of zero emission technologies across all stationary and mobile sources." Given the serious pollution in this region, these health gains from advancing zero-emissions will benefit millions.

The South Coast region is home to the most difficult air pollution challenges in the United States, ranking as the nation's most ozone-impacted metropolitan region in our "State of the Air" 2025 report. The region has made important progress in reducing ozone pollution, but we are still falling short of meeting clean air standards – and the work is far from over. Ozone pollution continues to pose a serious threat to public health, especially for the millions of residents already living with asthma, heart disease, and other respiratory or cardiovascular conditions. Children, seniors, people of color, low-income communities, and other vulnerable groups bear a disproportionate burden from this pollution, facing higher risks of illness and hospitalization due to unhealthy air. Achieving cleaner air standards isn't just a regulatory requirement – it's a moral imperative to protect the health and lives of those most at risk.

The American Lung Association strongly supports the prompt adoption and implementation of the strongest possible Rules 1111 and 1121, which set sales targets for zero-emission furnaces and water heaters. These standards represent the second largest pollution reduction strategy the agency has pursued in three decades and are a critical step toward cleaner air and better health outcomes in Southern California. By phasing in cleaner technologies, the region can significantly reduce harmful emissions, particularly in communities most impacted by air pollution. The public health urgency is clear: the rules are expected to prevent approximately 2,490 premature deaths and generate an estimated \$25.43 billion in health-related savings. The evidence is clear – this is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to protect lives, create clean energy jobs, and improve air quality.

The American Lung Association supports Rule 1111 and 1121 because swift action is essential to deliver these long-overdue public health benefits without delay. For questions, please contact Will Barrett at William.Barrett@lung.org.

Sincerely,

Will Barrett
Senior Director
Nationwide Advocacy, Clean Air

