



South Coast  
AQMD

# Proposed Amended Rule 1144 Metalworking Fluids and Direct-Contact Lubricants



Public Workshop  
January 28, 2026 – 10:00 AM

Zoom URL: <https://aqmd.zoomgov.com/j/1615426759>

Dial In: 1 669 254 5252

Webinar ID: 161 542 6759 (applies to all)

# Agenda

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- Background and Objectives
  - Prohibition of pCBtF and t-BAc
  - Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 1144
  - Impact Assessments
  - Next Steps



# Background and Objectives

# Rule 1144 Background

Adopted in March 2009 and amended in July 2010

Limits emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC) from metalworking fluids and direct-contact lubricants

Applies to users, manufacturers, and suppliers of metalworking fluids and direct-contact lubricants at industrial facilities

# Objectives of PAR 1144

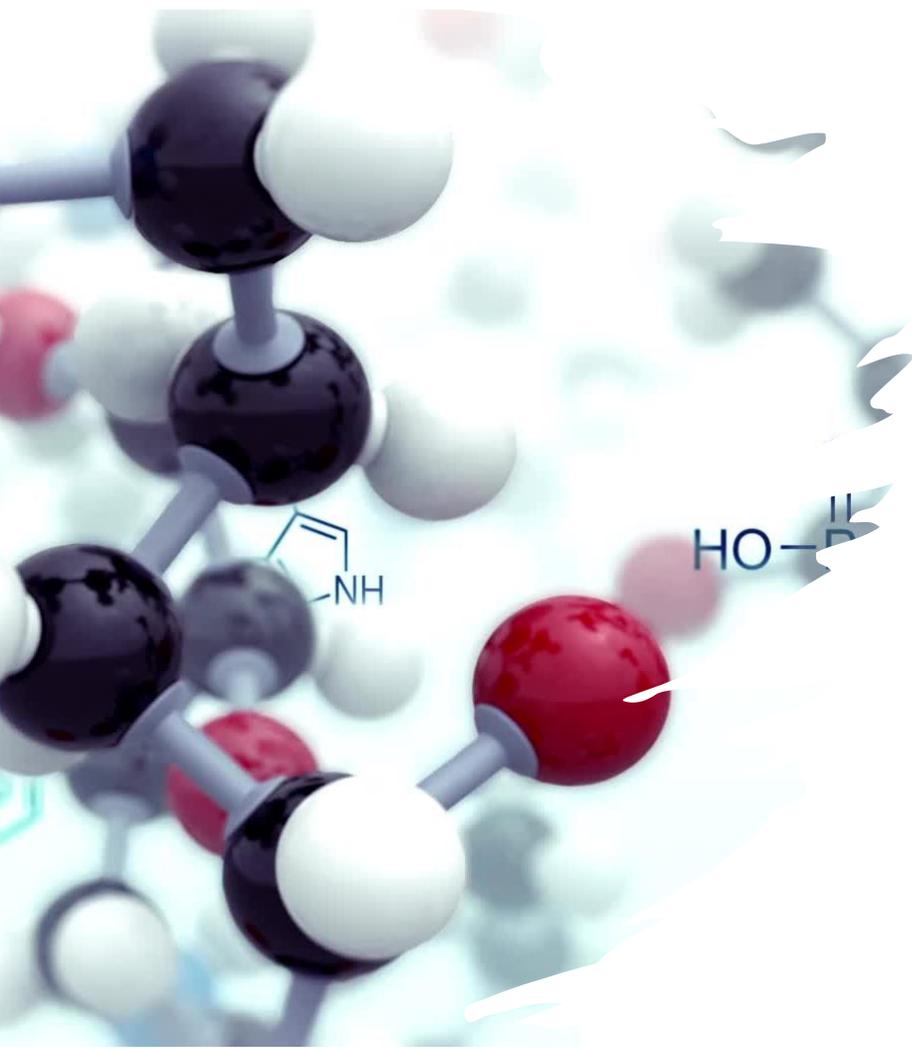
- PAR 1144 development was initiated in response to:
  - Stationary Source Committee (SSC) direction to prioritize addressing toxicity over VOC emission reductions
  - 2022 Air Quality Management Plan Control Measure CTS-01 Further Emission Reductions from Coatings, Solvents, Adhesives, and Lubricants (CTS-01)
- CTS-01 seeks to reduce VOC emissions and toxic air contaminants from coatings, solvents, adhesives, and lubricants
- Methods of control in CTS-01 include:
  - Assessing opportunities for VOC emission reductions
  - Addressing toxicity concerns with pCBtF and t-Bac





**Prohibition of pCBtF and t-BAc**

# Exempt VOCs by U.S. EPA

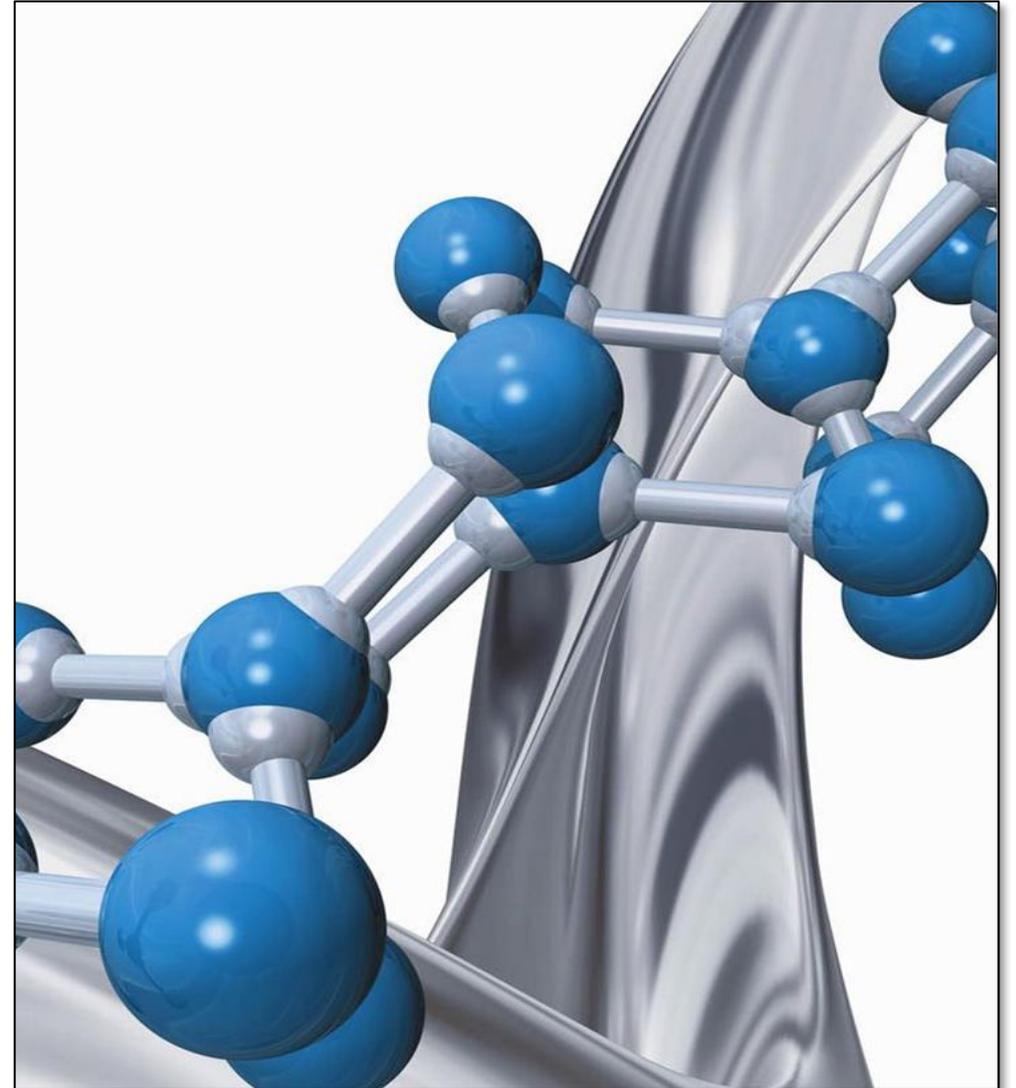


- Certain solvents are defined as exempt from the definition of VOC by the U.S. EPA if they are negligibly photochemically reactive
  - Defined as less reactive than ethane
- Exempt compounds are not considered toward the VOC content of regulated materials
- U.S. EPA does not consider toxicity when making their designation
- Two VOC-exempt compounds of focus are parachlorobenzotrifluoride (pCBtF) and tertiary-Butyl Acetate (tBAc)

# History of pCBtF and t-BAc

- Due to their VOC-exempt status, pCBtF and t-BAc are often used to meet VOC limits
  - U.S. EPA granted VOC-exempt status based on low ozone-forming potential
  - South Coast AQMD subsequently adopted corresponding VOC exemptions\*
- Emerging toxicity concerns triggered reevaluation of exemptions
  - OEHHA identified pCBtF and t-BAc as carcinogenic

\*A limited VOC-exempt status was adopted for t-BAc



# Prohibition of pCBtF and t-BAc

Additional modeling supported the Stationary Source Committee's recommendation to remove the VOC-exempt status of tBAc



OEHHA's assessment of tBAc and pCBtF shows compounds to be as toxic as many chemicals currently prohibited



Staff recommended prohibiting the use of tBAc and pCBtF

## Actions taken to date by South Coast AQMD:

- Use of pCBtF and t-Bac has been phased out for the following rules:
  - Amended Rule 1168 – Adhesive and Sealant Applications, in 2022
  - Amended Rule 1151 – Automotive Vehicle and Motor Equipment Non-Assembly Line and Mobile Equipment Coating Operations, in 2024
  - Amended Rule 1171 – Solvent Cleaning Operations, in 2025
  - Amended Rule 1107 – Coating of Metal Parts and Products, in 2025
- Case-by-case assessment being conducted for other rules and product categories to determine the best approach



# Proposed Amended Rule 1144

# Overview of Proposed Amendments



Adding phase-out of manufacturing, sale, and use of pCBtF and tBAc



Rule language revisions for additional clarity and harmonization with other South Coast AQMD VOC rules

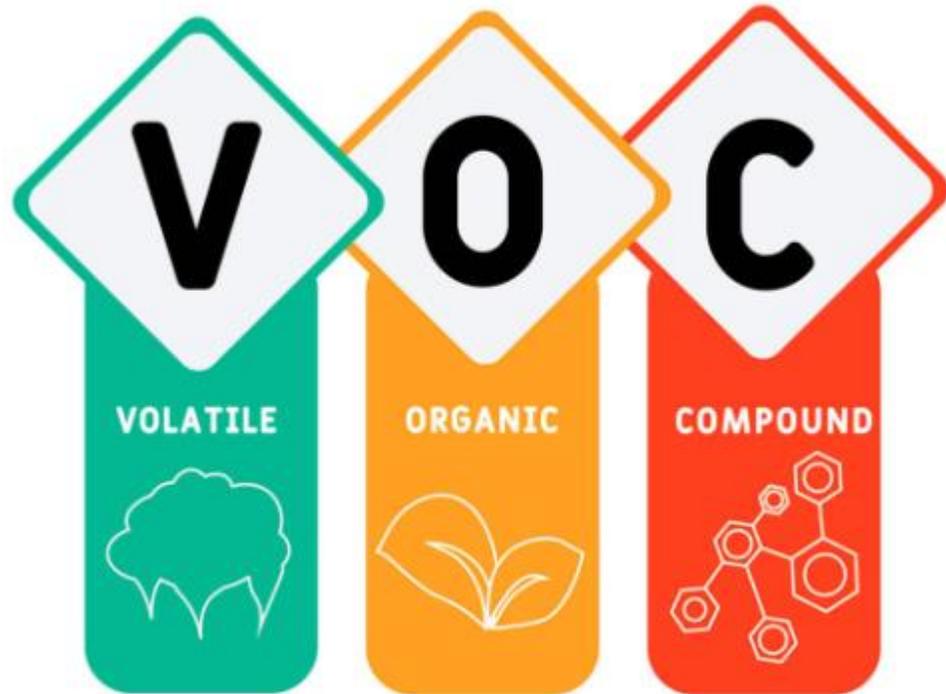


Removal of obsolete rule language



Minor editorial changes (e.g. capitalizing defined terms, moving provisions to other sections, etc.)

# VOC Content Requirements – (d)(1)



- Added (d)(1)(B) that states for any fluid or lubricant that is advertised it can be used in more than one category, the lowest applicable VOC limit shall apply
  - Harmonize with other recent VOC rule amendments
  - Ensure that products subject to Table A – Fluid Categories and VOC Limits are abiding by intended VOC limits

# Prohibitions – (d)(2)

- Broadened to cover all prohibitions besides sale
  - Includes manufacture, supply, offer for sale, sell, distribute, and use within South Coast AQMD
- Added (d)(2)(B) through (d)(2)(D) containing phase-out timeline for pCBtF and t-BAC based on survey results
- Added (d)(2)(E) to prohibit fluids or lubricants containing Group II Exempt Compounds after July 1, 2027
  - Ensure no other exempt status chemicals with known toxicities are used



Source: [Urban Restoration Group](#)

# Stakeholder Questionnaire Results

- Survey with follow-up questionnaire sent to manufacturers and suppliers inquiring about products containing pCBtF or tBAC
- Staff received responses from five (5) independent manufacturers and two (2) responses from organizations that represent over 100 manufacturers in total
  - Followed up with responding organizations on use of pCBtF and tBAC
- Based on received feedback, no manufacturer is currently using pCBtF or tBAC in their products
- Indicates early prohibition of pCBtF and tBAC is feasible

 South Coast Air Quality Management District P.O. Box 4944 Diamond Bar, CA 91765 (909) 396-2000		South Coast AQMD RULE 1144 – <i>Metalworking Fluids and Direct-Contact Lubricants</i> QUANTITY & EMISSION SURVEY			
Is any information included in this report considered confidential? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please specify what information is confidential under Comments and Notes (cell E11)) <input type="checkbox"/> No					
<b>SECTION (A): MANUFACTURER INFORMATION</b>					
Legal Name of Manufacturer (as listed on manufacturer label):		Reporting Year: 2024			
Street Address:	City:	State:	Zip Code:	Date Report Completed:	
Responsible Party:	Position:	Phone Number:	E-Mail Address:	Comments/Notes:	
<b>SECTION (B): PRODUCT INFORMATION - Metal Working Fluids</b>					
LINE NO.	Product Code & Name	Applicable Category (Please Select Category)	t-BAC WT %	pCBtF WT %	VOC of Material (Actual VOC) As Applied (g/L)
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

1. Does your facility or represented company manufacture any products that contain Parachlorobenzotrifluoride (PCBTF) and/or Tert-butyl acetate (TBAC)?
2. If yes to #1, please state the name of the product(s) and provide documentation that includes the amount of PCBTF and/or TBAC in each product.
3. If yes to #1, is there a readily available replacement under consideration? If yes, please provide the name of the replacement chemical(s).

# Phase-Out Timeline for pCBtF and t-BAc

(d)(2)(B) allows manufacture of products containing pCBtF and/or t-BAc until July 1, 2027

(d)(2)(C) allows sale or distribution of products containing pCBtF and/or t-BAc until July 1, 2028

(d)(2)(D) allows use of products containing pCBtF and/or t-BAc until July 1, 2029

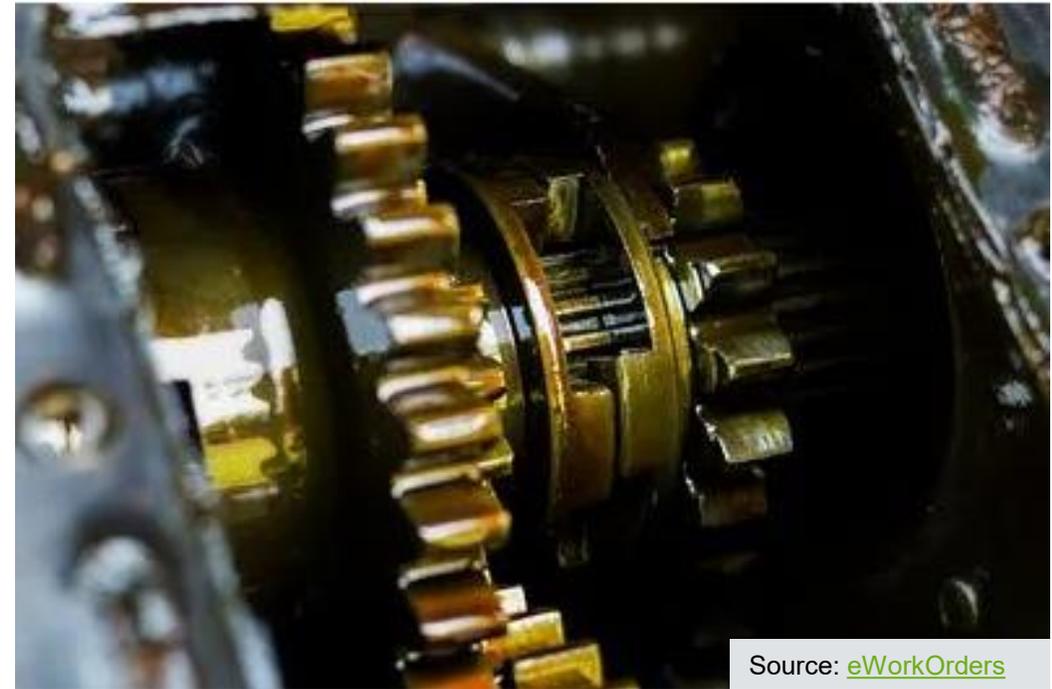
# Exemptions – (i)



- Former (i)(3) (now (i)(2)) updated to further clarify that rule provisions do not apply to products that are to be used outside of South Coast AQMD or are to be shipped for reformulation or repackaging
  - Harmonize with other recent VOC rule amendments

# Miscellaneous Updates

- Identified rule language in earlier subdivisions that best belong in Exemptions (i)
  - Refer to conditions that rule or certain requirements do not apply
- Moved rule language to Exemptions (i) include:
  - Last sentence of Applicability (b) stating operations where rule does not apply – now (i)(8)
  - Former (d)(2)(B) and (C) stating conditions sale prohibition does not apply – now (i)(6) and (i)(7)
- No other changes to moved language



# Other Miscellaneous Updates

- Removed obsolete rule language
  - Past effective dates
  - Provisions no longer relevant

Streamlined Table A – Fluid Categories and VOC Limits

Deleted (d)(3) – Sell through provision for fluids not meeting VOC limits

Condensed labeling requirements in Administrative Requirements (f)

Deleted (f)(3) and (g)(7) covering submittal of annual quantity and emissions reports

Deleted (i)(2) and (i)(4)(F) – Temporary exemptions on fluids subject to CARB’s consumer product regulation and metal protecting fluids for military specification

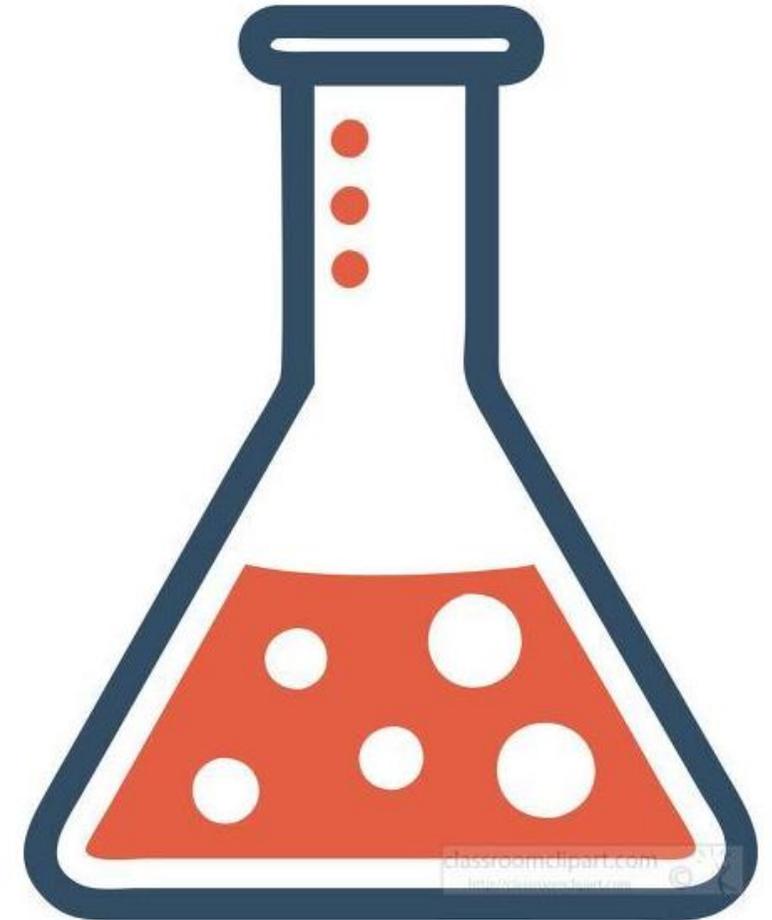
Deleted (i)(7) – Exemption on dimethyl carbonate use in computed numerically controlled (CNC) machines



# Impact Assessments

# Impacts of PAR 1144

- No changes to VOC limits are proposed
- Existing VOC limits will remain in effect
- No additional costs or environmental impacts expected as pCBtf and tBAc are not used as metalworking fluids



# Socioeconomic Impacts

PAR 1144 does not significantly affect air quality or emission limitations

No significant socioeconomic impacts are expected

No socioeconomic impact assessment is required pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 40440.8 and 40728.5

# California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Prohibition of pCBtF and t-BAc is health protective, and compliant formulations are currently available

No significant adverse impacts expected

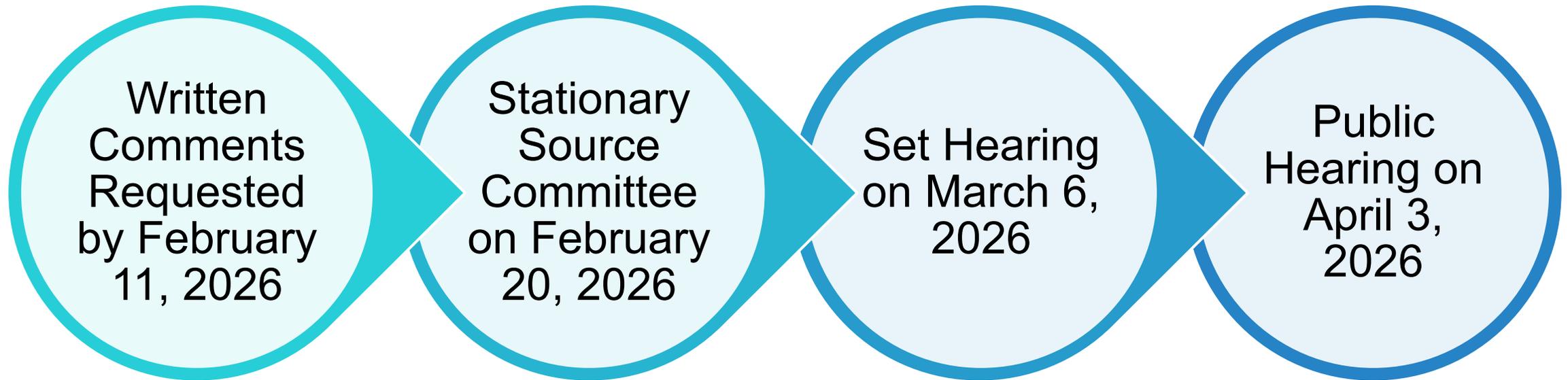
PAR 1144 qualifies for an exemption from CEQA

A Notice of Exemption from CEQA will be prepared



# Next Steps

# Proposed Rule Development Schedule



# Rulemaking Materials

- PAR 1144 materials and documents are available online:

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

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## Proposed Rules and Proposed Rule Amendments

**Proposed Rules**

- [Guide to South Coast AQMD Rules](#)
- [Archived](#)
- [Recent Actions](#)

This page includes a list of rules that are actively in rule development or have recently been proposed and/or amended.

Information regarding Working Group Meetings, Public Workshops, and supporting documents such as presentations, draft staff reports, draft proposed rules, comment letters received, and other information can be found by clicking the rule in the table.

Information associated with the rule development process for rules that were adopted or amended within the past five years can be found on our [Archived Page](#).

Please refer to the [South Coast AQMD Rule Book](#) to obtain the current list of adopted or amended rules and regulations.

For current rule forecast please see the monthly [Governing Board Agenda](#).

Rule Name	Description
Regulation III	Fee Rules
Rule 218.2 and Rule 218.3	Proposed Rule 218.2 - Continuous Emission Monitoring System: General Provisions Proposed Rule 218.3 - Continuous Emission Monitoring System: Performance Specifications

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- Rule 1143** Consumer Paint Thinners and Multi-Purpose Solvents
- Rule 1144** Metalworking Fluids and Direct-Contact Lubricants
- Rule 1145** Plastic, Rubber, Leather, Glass Coatings

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