



Raymond Regulatory Resources (3R), LLC

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April 28, 2025

Mr. Christopher Bradley
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

RE: South Coast Air Quality Management District Proposed Amended Rule 1171 – Cleaning Operations.

Dear Mr. Bradley:

Raymond Regulatory Resources (3R) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) proposed amendments to Rule 1171 Cleaning Coating Operations. 3R Consults for numerous marketers and fillers in the Consumer Products arena. As well 3R is the consultant for the National Aerosol Association (NAA).

3R has worked with SCAQMD since the inception of Rule 1171 in the 1990's. Our collaboration in the past has been to provide the best possible regulation that benefits the environment and is clear and concise for Industry to comply.

Comments

Per discussions with Sarady Ka, 3R appreciates that SCAQMD is willing to delete the ban on Volatile Methylated Siloxanes (VMS) at this time. We understand that pending additional information or work performed by office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) this status may change. As well, 3R appreciates the additional ounces being provided for the general aerosol usage to 640 ounces per month. Also, the change from fluid ounce to weight ounces clarifies the usage properly, given aerosols are measured only in weight ounces.

Additional Comments

Several other additional changes are being offered for the amendments to add clarity to the existing rule.

- Aerosol products – 3R believes that some marketers may be unclear on the use of the Aerosol Products exemption, specifically as regards complying with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) VOC limits as stated in Article 2 of the Consumer Products Rule under CARB. To clarify this issue the following wording is suggested for (e)(3) C).

Such products are compliant with the California Consumer Products Regulations, including meeting the VOC content limit requirements of Article 2 or as allowed by Article 4.

- Alternative MIR Limit – 3R applauds that SCAQMD is providing an MIR Reactivity Alternative limit in Rule 1171. Reactivity is the best science to be used to regulate VOC emissions. However, SCAQMD has Rule 1143 as well. Thus, a marketer may be able to produce a product using the MIR Alternative but still be restricted by Rule 1143. Thus, to clarify this issue and not have to open up Rule 1143, the following wording should be added at the end of (e)(4) so that the entire paragraph reads as follows:

(4) Alternative MIR Limit – In lieu of complying with the requirements in paragraph (d)(1), a Person may elect to supply for use within South Coast AQMD or use Solvent Cleaning Materials that comply with a PW-MIR limit of 0.38 g O3/g VOC for any Solvent Cleaning Activity. Solvent cleaners that comply with this alternative MIR limit will also be deemed compliant with SCAQMD Rule 1143.

This would provide clear wording for enforcement and Industry to follow.

- Clarity for Definition – Definition (9) for Cured Coatings, Cured Ink or Cured Adhesive has been modified. This change effects certain adhesives that while cured may appear or feel tacky to the touch. This in no way means that the adhesive has not cured and is not releasing additional VOCs under normal conditions. For a manufacturer to prove that a tacky adhesive has indeed released all it's VOC would be incredibly difficult to prove. Thus, this wording could facilitate unwarranted enforcement actions. We request that this “tacky” status only be used to describe Coatings and Inks. If SCAQMD cannot make this distinction, then the following wording is suggested for definition (9).

Cured Coating, Cured Ink, or Cured Adhesive means a coating, ink, or adhesive, that is dry to the touch, and that has undergone a chemical or physical process to achieve its final state, where an adhesive may or may not still be tacky and does not release volatile components under normal use conditions.

- Lastly, 3R believes that the June 2025 board hearing date is too early to work through all the possible changes and requests. The board date should be delayed to have more time to completely review this regulation. This rule was last amended in 2009. In 2024 there were two work group meetings with an approximate year in between,

then a workgroup and public workshop within a month. There has not been sufficient time to have a complete review. In addition, it has been 16 years since last amendments, what is the hurry? A few more months may provide a better rule.

Summary

Thank you for all of the changes made to date. Hopefully these additional suggestions will provide more clarity to this rule and avoid any misconceptions in the future.

3R again appreciates the opportunity to comment on the amendments to Rule 1171 and looks forward to working with you in the future. Any questions or comments please contact me at djraymond@me.com or at 440-339-4539.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas Raymond".

Douglas Raymond

cc: Heather Farr
cc: Michael Morris
cc: Sarady Ka