April 14, 2022

COMPLIANCE ADVISORY

District Inspection of Commercial Harbor Craft Vessels

On December 13, 2021, the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (District) updated the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to include inspections of all commercial harbor craft vessels including, but not limited to, ferries, excursion vessels, tugboats (including ocean-going tugs), towboats, push boats, crew and supply vessels, barge and dredge vessels, work boats, pilot vessels, and commercial passenger fishing vessels in San Diego County.

This advisory provides notice to owners/operators of commercial harbor craft that the District will be conducting inspections to verify compliance with the following regulations:

➢ “Airborne Toxic Control Measure for Commercial Harbor Craft” (California Code of Regulations, title 17, section 93118.5) (Commercial Harbor Craft Regulation)

➢ "Low Sulfur Fuel Requirement, Emission Limits and Other Requirements for Commercial Harbor Craft" (California Code of Regulations, title 13, section 2299.5)

The purpose of the Commercial Harbor Craft regulation is to reduce emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx), a key precursor to ozone formation, and diesel particulate matter (PM) from harbor craft engines. San Diego County is not in attainment with a federal and state health-based ground-level ozone standard. Ground-level ozone (or smog) is a respiratory irritant that negatively impacts at-risk people, including children, the elderly, and people with respiratory ailments. Reducing exposure to diesel PM can lower cancer risks and reducing exposure to ground level ozone will help to improve the health of all San Diego County residents and visitors.

Please see the factsheet under the following link for an overview of the existing Commercial Harbor Craft regulatory requirements: https://bit.ly/38A6l2d. Please note that the CARB Board recently approved updates to the Commercial Harbor Craft regulation which is scheduled to begin in 2023. More information about the CARB Board approved amendments to this regulation can be found online at https://bit.ly/3JiTEWb.

Should you have any questions regarding this advisory or need additional information, please contact the District’s Mobile Source Compliance Supervisor at 858-586-2650 or via e-mail at apcdcomp@sdapcd.org