

11-16-99



Air Pollution Control Board

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Air Pollution Control District

R. J. Sommerville	Director
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NOTICE OF WORKSHOP

FOR DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULE 2 - DEFINITIONS, AND PROPOSED REPEAL OF RULE 3 - STANDARD CONDITIONS

The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District will hold a public meeting to consider proposed amendments to Rule 2 - Definitions and proposed repeal of Rule 3 - Standard Conditions. Comments concerning this proposal or the District's preliminary conclusion that the proposed actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) may be submitted in writing before, or made at, the public meeting which is scheduled as follows:

DATE: March 23, 1999 - Tuesday

TIME: 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

PLACE: Air Pollution Control District
Conference Room 139
9150 Chesapeake Drive
San Diego, CA 92123

San Diego County does not attain the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone. Federal and State clean air laws require the District to control emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds (VOC's) because they participate in photochemical reactions leading to ground level ozone formation.

District regulations define the term "volatile organic compound" and provide emissions limits for operations and processes using VOC's. Organic compounds with negligible photochemical reactivity (Exempt Compounds) are exempt from these regulations.

Rule 2 provides standard definitions for various terms used in District Rules and Regulations. The main purpose for amending Rule 2 is to update the list of exempt compounds for consistency with federal regulations. In addition, the proposed amendments will streamline the District rule updating process if this list is revised again by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

EPA recently amended its definition of VOC's by exempting methyl acetate and 19 fluoro- and chlorofluorohydrocarbons from the VOC definition. These compounds were determined by EPA to have negligible contribution to the formation of ground level ozone. They also have low toxicity and do not contribute to the depletion of ozone levels in the stratosphere. The proposed amendments will add these compounds to the exempt compound list in Rule 2, making it consistent with the EPA definition. It will also provide local industry with greater flexibility in finding substitutes for VOC's, toxic compounds and ozone depleting compounds. Please note that the proposed changes will have no effect on current permit requirements.

In addition, the proposed amendments include a provision allowing the District to revise the list of exempt compounds after a decision by EPA to add any new negligibly photochemically reactive

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compounds. This decision will be made after the District has published a 30-day public notice of such intent to revise and consider any comments received in response to such notice. This will allow the District to respond quickly to changes in federal law regarding the VOC and exempt compound definitions and avoid the necessity of going through a labor intensive and time consuming rule development process.

The proposed amendments will also add new definitions, delete outdated definitions, and provide updates and clarifications.

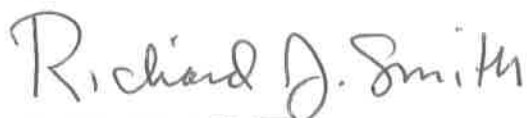
Specifically, the amendments to Rule 2 will accomplish the following:

- Revise the definition of Exempt Compounds;
- Streamline the District's process of updating the list of exempt compounds;
- Clarify the definition of Standard Conditions;
- Clarify the definition of Application Station;
- Add definitions for Facility, Military Tactical Support Equipment, Permit to Operate, Registration, and 12-month Period. These terms are used in several District rules;
- Add a definition for PM_{2.5} for future use in the rules reflecting new particulate matter standards to be promulgated by EPA; and
- Delete definitions of Process Weight and Process Weight per Hour. These terms are used only in Rule 54 and are defined in that rule.

Current Rule 3 contains only a definition of Standard Conditions. A definition of Standard Conditions is also included in Rule 2. Therefore Rule 3 is no longer needed and it is proposed to be repealed.

The District has conducted a preliminary review of whether CEQA applies to the proposed amendments to Rule 2 and the proposed repeal of Rule 3. The District has concluded that it is certain that these proposed actions are exempt from further CEQA review.

If you would like a copy of proposed amended Rule 2, Rule 3 which is proposed for repeal, or the preliminary CEQA review, please call Juanita Ogata at (619) 694-8851 or visit the District's Web Site at www.sdapcd.co.san-diego.ca.us. If you have any questions concerning the proposal, please call Natalie Zlotin at (619) 694-3312 or me at (619) 694-3303.



RICHARD J. SMITH
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2/9/99