



Air Pollution Control Board
Greg Cox District 1
Dianne Jacob District 2
Pam Slater District 3
Ron Roberts District 4
Bill Horn District 5
Air Pollution Control District
R. J. Sommerville Director

COMPLIANCE ADVISORY

NOTICE OF AMENDMENTS TO RULE 1203 ETHYLENE OXIDE STERILIZERS AND AERATORS

On July 26, 2000, the Air Pollution Control Board adopted amendments to existing District Rule 1203 which controls ethylene oxide (EtO) emissions from sterilization and aeration operations. The rule was first adopted July 23, 1991, to implement an Air Resources Board statewide Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM). The ATCM was amended and now consists of two parts. Part 1 applies to sterilizers and aerators at medical facilities and commercial operations using less than 2,000 pounds of EtO per 12 consecutive months. Part 2 applies to large commercial sterilizers and aerators using 2,000 pounds or more of EtO per 12 consecutive months. The amendments to District Rule 1203 incorporate the requirements of Part 1 of the amended state ATCM. The District will enforce Part 2 of the state ATCM without adoption of a local rule.

The amendments to Rule 1203 accomplish the following:

Applicability	No change to the applicability section.
Exemptions	Subjects commercial operations using 2,000 pounds or more of EtO per 12 consecutive months to Subsections (d)(1) and (d)(7), but exempts them from the emission reduction efficiency requirements. These operations are subject to the emission reduction requirements in Part 2 of the state ATCM.
Definitions	Adds, deletes and amends certain definitions for clarification.
Emission Reduction Efficiency	Adds the option to allow venting of the sterilizer and aerator exhaust streams simultaneously to emission control equipment having an EtO emission reduction efficiency of at least 99.7% by weight.
Liquid Discharge Requirements	Further limits the discharge of liquids from the EtO recovery system to any system open to the atmosphere.
Record Keeping Requirements	Increases the time to maintain records on-site from three years to five years.
Test Methods	Updates test methods for determining compliance and makes other minor corrections and clarifications to improve the rule.

A copy of Rule 61.2 is available by contacting the District at (858) 650-4700 or on the District's web site at www.sdapcd.co.san-diego.ca.us under Rules and Regulations / Recent and/or Repealed Rules. For more information, please contact the District Compliance Division at (858) 650-4550.

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9150 Chesapeake Drive • San Diego • California 92123-1096 • (858) 694-3307
FAX (858) 694-2730 • Smoking Vehicle Hotline 1-800-28-SMOKE