

Air Pollution Control District Governing Board
San Diego County Air Pollution Control District
AGENDA ITEM # 02

DATE: September 9, 2021

TO: Air Pollution Control District Governing Board

SUBJECT:
ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULE 69.2.2 (MEDIUM BOILERS, PROCESS HEATERS, AND STEAM GENERATORS)

REQUESTED ACTION:

1. Find that the adoption of proposed amended Rule 69.2.2 - Medium Boilers, Process Heaters, and Steam Generators is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act in accordance with staff analysis.
2. Adopt the Resolution entitled: RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO RULE 69.2.2 – MEDIUM BOILERS, PROCESS HEATERS, AND STEAM GENERATORS, OF REGULATION IV OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT.

OVERVIEW:

Existing Rule 69.2.2 regulates air pollutant emissions from medium boilers, process heaters, and steam generators (units). These units are commonly used to provide hot water or steam at different types of facilities such as hospitals, college campuses, and military installations.

Rule 69.2.2 was adopted on July 8, 2020 and applies to existing and new units with a heat input rating greater than 2 million British thermal units (Btu) per hour to less than 5 million Btu per hour. The current rule requires that by July 1, 2021, manufacturers of any new unit to be offered for sale within San Diego County submit to the District an application to certify that each unit model complies with the rule requirements, including a demonstration that the unit was tested and complies with the emission standards specified in the rule. This regulatory approach works well for the majority of boilers, which the large manufacturers of boilers produce and certify based on the manufacturer's previously conducted emissions testing of that same model of boiler.

However, small manufacturers of boilers periodically manufacture custom units (upon customer request) and are not able to perform the required emission standard testing on new custom units until after these units have been installed. In order to provide flexibility for these types of situations, the District is proposing to amend Rule 69.2.2 to allow manufacturers to submit the application for certification for new custom units after these units have been installed and tested.

In addition, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency identified other updates to Rule 69.2.2 that are necessary to assure federal approval of the rule. These modifications include language clarifications and updates to the test methods. The proposed amendments to Rule 69.2.2 will also address these necessary rule updates.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT:

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires an environmental review for certain actions. The District has conducted a review of whether CEQA applies to the adoption of the proposed amendments to Rule 69.2.2. The proposed rule amendments do not change the local emission standards that are already in effect. Therefore, District staff determined that the adoption of the proposed amendments to Rule 69.2.2 is exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15308, as an action taken to assure the protection of the environment, and pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3), since it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant adverse effect on the environment.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

July 8, 2020 (AP02), Adoption of New Rule 69.2.2 – Medium Boilers, Process Heaters, and Steam Generators and Related Amendments to Rule 11 – Exemptions from Rule 10 Permit Requirements and Rule 12 – Registration of Specified Equipment

ADVISORY GROUP ACTIONS:

N/A

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Attachment A– Resolution Adopting Amendments to Rule 69.2.2 – Medium Boilers, Process Heaters, and Steam Generators, of Regulation IV of the Rules and Regulations of the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District
- Attachment B – Background
- Attachment C – Workshop Report
- Attachment D – Rule 69.2.2 Change Copy

SUBMITTED BY:

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