

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FROM THE
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

To: Governor's Office of Planning and Research - State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth St, Suite 222
Sacramento, CA 95814-5502

From: South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Project Title: Proposed Amended Rule 1146 – Emissions of Oxides of Nitrogen from Industrial, Institutional, and Commercial Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters

Project Location: The project is located within the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (South Coast AQMD) jurisdiction, which includes the four-county South Coast Air Basin (all of Orange County and the non-desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties), and the Riverside County portion of the Salton Sea Air Basin and the non-Palo Verde, Riverside County portion of the Mojave Desert Air Basin.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: To prevent conflicts with applying the existing ammonia emission limits in Regulation XIII – New Source Review during the permitting process, amendments to Rule 1146 are proposed that would remove the ammonia concentration limit of five parts per million (ppm). Based on a review of recently approved permits, an ammonia concentration limit of five ppm has been imposed as Best Available Control Technology (BACT); therefore, removal of the five ppm limit from Rule 1146 is not expected to cause any significant adverse impacts.

Public Agency Approving Project: South Coast Air Quality Management District

Agency Carrying Out Project: South Coast Air Quality Management District

Exempt Status:

CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption

Reasons why project is exempt: South Coast AQMD, as Lead Agency, has reviewed the proposed project pursuant to: 1) CEQA Guidelines Section 15002(k) – General Concepts, the three-step process for deciding which document to prepare for a project subject to CEQA; and 2) CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 – Review for Exemption, procedures for determining if a project is exempt from CEQA. Since the proposed project relies on the continued implementation of the existing ammonia emission limits in Regulation XIII during the permitting process as part of implementing equipment-specific BACT requirements and removing the ammonia concentration limit in Rule 1146 would alleviate any potential conflicts with implementing Regulation XIII, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Therefore, the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption.

Date of Project Approval:


South Coast AQMD Governing Board Public Hearing: December 4, 2020

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Date Received for Filing: _____

Signature: _____


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Planning, Rule Development, and Area Sources