



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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South Coast AQMD Air Quality Significance Thresholds

Mass Daily Thresholds ^a		
Pollutant	Construction	Operation
NO _x	100 lbs/day	55 lbs/day
VOC	75 lbs/day	55 lbs/day
PM ₁₀	150 lbs/day	150 lbs/day
PM _{2.5}	55 lbs/day	55 lbs/day
SO _x	150 lbs/day	150 lbs/day
CO	550 lbs/day	550 lbs/day
Lead	3 lbs/day	3 lbs/day
Toxic Air Contaminants (TACs), Odor, and GHG Thresholds		
TACs (including carcinogens and non-carcinogens)	Maximum Incremental Cancer Risk ≥ 10 in 1 million Cancer Burden > 0.5 excess cancer cases (in areas ≥ 1 in 1 million) Chronic & Acute Hazard Index ≥ 1.0 (project increment)	
Odor	Project creates an odor nuisance pursuant to South Coast AQMD Rule 402	
GHG	10,000 MT/yr CO ₂ eq for industrial facilities	
Ambient Air Quality Standards for Criteria Pollutants ^b		
NO ₂ 1-hour average annual arithmetic mean	South Coast AQMD is in attainment; project is significant if it causes or contributes to an exceedance of the following attainment standards: 0.18 ppm (state) 0.03 ppm (state) and 0.0534 ppm (federal)	
PM ₁₀ 24-hour average annual average	10.4 µg/m ³ (construction) ^c & 2.5 µg/m ³ (operation) 1.0 µg/m ³	
PM _{2.5} 24-hour average	10.4 µg/m ³ (construction) ^c & 2.5 µg/m ³ (operation)	
SO ₂ 1-hour average 24-hour average	0.25 ppm (state) & 0.075 ppm (federal – 99 th percentile) 0.04 ppm (state)	
Sulfate 24-hour average	25 µg/m ³ (state)	
CO 1-hour average 8-hour average	South Coast AQMD is in attainment; project is significant if it causes or contributes to an exceedance of the following attainment standards: 20 ppm (state) and 35 ppm (federal) 9.0 ppm (state/federal)	
Lead 30-day Average Rolling 3-month average	1.5 µg/m ³ (state) 0.15 µg/m ³ (federal)	

^a Source: South Coast AQMD CEQA Handbook (South Coast AQMD, 1993)

^b Ambient air quality thresholds for criteria pollutants based on South Coast AQMD Rule 1303, Table A-2 unless otherwise stated.

^c Ambient air quality threshold based on South Coast AQMD Rule 403.

KEY: lbs/day = pounds per day ppm = parts per million µg/m³ = microgram per cubic meter ≥ = greater than or equal to
 MT/yr CO₂eq = metric tons per year of CO₂ equivalents > = greater than