

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

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**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

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**Project Title:** Proposed Amended Rule 218.2 – Continuous Emission Monitoring System: General Provisions, and Proposed Amended Rule 218.3 – Continuous Emission Monitoring System: Performance Specifications

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**Project Location:** The proposed 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.

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**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** Amendments to Rules 218.2 and 218.3 are proposed that will complement recent rule development efforts for command-and-control rules with continuous emission monitoring system (CEMS) requirements. Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 218.2 will: 1) include more specificity to the Executive Officer's discretion on CEMS recertification requirements and the exemption provision; 2) extend the recordkeeping period; and 3) provide more time for submitting the relative accuracy test audit (RATA) report. PAR 218.3 will: 1) include an option to validate and accept data that would fall in a monitoring gap for dual range analyzers; 2) add specifications for conducting mass emission calculations data substitution procedures; 3) clarify the method for linearity error checks; and 4) include more specificity to the Executive Officer's discretion on the exemption provision.

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**Public Agency Approving Project:** South Coast Air Quality Management District

**Agency Carrying Out Project:** South Coast Air Quality Management District

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**Exempt Status:**  
CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption

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**Reasons why project is exempt:** South Coast AQMD, as Lead Agency, has reviewed the proposed project (PAR 218.2 and PAR 218.3) 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. The proposed project provides updates to technical guidelines for operating CEMS as required by South Coast AQMD rules or permit conditions without requiring physical modifications to occur. Thus, it can be seen with certainty that implementing the proposed project would not cause a significant adverse effect on the environment. Therefore, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption.

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**Date of Project Approval:** South Coast AQMD Governing Board Public Hearing: September 2, 2022

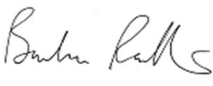
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**Date Received for Filing:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:**  September 2, 2022  
Barbara Radlein  
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Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation