

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

To: County Clerks for the Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino; and Governor's Office of Planning and Research – State Clearinghouse

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

Project Title: Proposed Rule 1110.3 – Emissions from Linear Generators, and Proposed Amended Rule 1110.2 – Emissions from Gaseous- and Liquid-Fueled Engines

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.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The current version of Rule 1110.2 applies to facilities with engines greater than 50 rated brake horsepower; however, Rule 1110.2 also contains emission limits and other requirements applicable to linear generators. Unlike internal combustion engines (ICEs), linear generators produce electricity by driving magnets through copper coils in a linear motion and the thermochemical reaction takes place at lower temperatures than ICEs, which results in lower emissions without the need for add-on air pollution control devices. In order to have a rule with dedicated requirements specific to the technology and capabilities of linear generators, Proposed Rule 1110.3 (PR 1110.3) has been developed with updated emission limits and new provisions which incorporate existing requirements for linear generators from Rule 1110.2 into PR 1110.3. Specifically, PR 1110.3: 1) establishes the rule's applicability to include all linear generators fueled solely by natural gas; 2) defines linear generator and other terms to provide context and clarity; 3) establishes concentration-based emission-limits for nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds (VOC), and carbon monoxide (CO); and 4) establishes requirements for conducting maintenance, source testing, monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping. PR 1110.3 also includes limited exemptions for: 1) laboratory units used for testing and research purposes; and 2) emergency standby units, units used for fire-fighting and flood control, or any other emergency unit approved by the Executive Officer which have permit conditions that limit operation(s) to 200 hours or less per year as determined by an operational non-resettable totalizing time meter. With requirements for linear generators established in PR 1110.3 in lieu of Rule 1110.2, Proposed Amended Rule 1110.2 (PAR 1110.2) contains changes that would: 1) remove all requirements applicable to linear generators; 2) provide clarifications to the definition of an engine; and 3) define linear generator for the purpose of exempting this technology from Rule 1110.2. By providing separate and distinct requirements for linear generators and engines in PR 1110.3 and PAR 1110.2, respectively, stakeholders will benefit from having improved clarity when implementing the applicable requirements.

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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FROM CEQA (concluded)

Reasons why project is exempt: South Coast AQMD, as Lead Agency, has reviewed the proposed project (PR 1110.3 and PAR 1110.2) 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 transfers existing requirements from Rule 1110.2 into PR 1110.3 and contains other revisions in PAR 1110.2 to improve clarity and enforceability, but without requiring physical modifications. Thus, it can be seen with certainty that implementing PR 1110.3 and PAR 1110.2 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.

Date of Project Approval: South Coast AQMD Governing Board Public Hearing: November 3, 2023

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Date Received for Filing: _____

Signature: _____



November 3, 2023

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Implementation