

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Proposed Amendments to Regulation 8: Organic Compounds, Rule 18: Equipment Leaks

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code §§ 21000 et seq, and Sections 15071 and 15074 of the CEQA Guidelines, the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) hereby adopts this Negative Declaration finding that the adoption of Proposed Amendments to Regulation 8: Organic Compounds, Rule 18: Equipment Leaks will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Project Name: Amendments to Regulation 8: Organic Compounds, Rule 18: Equipment Leaks.

Project Description: The Air District has regulatory authority over stationary sources of air pollution in the San Francisco Bay Area. The proposed amendments to Regulation 8, Rule 18 (Rule 8-18) address emissions of volatile organic compounds and methane (together referred to as “total organic compounds”) from equipment leaks at refineries, chemical plants, and facilities that load and store organic liquids in bulk quantities in the Bay Area. The proposed amendments would require that certain components in heavy liquid service be included in Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) Program requirements, including valves and non-steam quenched pumps handling material with initial boiling points between 302 and 372 °F; steam-quenched pumps, compressors, pressure relief devices, and open ended valve or line handling material with initial boiling points greater than 302 °F; and components handling material in gas or vapor phase. The proposed amendments would also include updates to aid with readability and clarity, as well as changes covering Exemptions, Definitions, Standards, Administrative Requirements, Monitoring and Records, and Procedures.

Project Location: The nine-county jurisdiction of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, which includes all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa Counties, and portions of southwestern Solano County and southern Sonoma County. A map of the project location is provided in Figure 2-1 on page 2-9 of the Initial Study attached hereto.

Project Applicant and Lead Agency: The Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

Finding of No Significant Impact: The Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District hereby finds, using its own independent judgment and analysis, that based on the whole record (including the Initial Study and public comments received) there is no substantial evidence that the proposed amendments to Regulation 8: Organic Compounds, Rule 18: Equipment Leaks would result in significant impacts.

Initial Study: A copy of the Initial Study documenting the reasons supporting the finding of no significant impact is attached hereto.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures need to be included in the project to avoid potentially significant effects, as the project will not have any potentially significant effects.