

INTRODUCTION

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The BAAQMD Permit Handbook is intended to be used by permit applicants, District permit engineers, District inspectors, and other District staff.

The purpose of this Permit Handbook is to set forth the fixed standards and objective measurements to be used by District engineers in determining whether a particular permit may be issued to a particular project belonging to a given source category.

Permits prepared in accordance with the Permit Handbook are deemed “ministerial” for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Permits that deviate from or sources not covered by the Permit Handbook will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for compliance with CEQA. All of these steps will be taken in conformance with the District’s permitting regulations.

The Permit Handbook also contains a set of standardized emission factors, a list of Best Available Control Technology (BACT) and Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) levels and other fixed standards, which the District staff uses in evaluations of permit applications for ministerial projects.

The Handbook provides District permit engineers all tools necessary to evaluate the emissions and the compliance status of a source. The District also expects the Handbook to be useful to permit applicants, as it defines all elements of a complete permit application and provides an explanation of all factors considered during the permit evaluation process. District inspectors will find the Handbook useful because it will help them better understand the processes and emissions they are enforcing. Other District staff may find the Handbook useful where their duties require involvement with the permitting process.