



FAQS

RULE 13-2: Organic Material Handling

RULE 13-3: Composting Operations

Why is the Air District developing these new draft rules?

Draft Rules 13-2 and 13-3 aim to address emissions of methane, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and odor-causing compounds from facilities that handle and process organic material. The Air District anticipates an increase in organic waste handling facilities due to the passage of SB 1383 in 2016, which requires 50 percent diversion of organic material from landfills by 2020 and 75 percent by 2025 from 2014 levels. This mandatory diversion is expected to increase compost production throughout California, particularly in more populated areas.

What is the purpose of Draft Rules 13-2 and 13-3?

The purpose of these draft rules is to minimize emissions (i.e. methane, VOCs, and odor-causing emissions) and to standardize control technologies and best management practices for organic material handling processes.

What are the key elements of these rules?

Both draft rules would include best management practices for storage times, pile dimensions, feedstock content, reporting require-

ments, and may specify testing methods. Draft Rule 13-3 may require abatement technology for large-scale composting operations.

Which facilities will be most affected?

Draft Rule 13-2 would affect any operation involved in the handling, sorting, processing, or storage of organic material and/or compost. Draft Rule 13-3 would affect facilities with active composting operations. The rules would apply to landfills, transfer stations, waste haulers, municipal recycling facilities, landscaping companies, standalone composting operations, anaerobic digesters, and the municipal environmental health agencies charged with oversight of these facilities.

What are the next steps in the rule process and how can I learn more?

The Air District will be holding a series of public workshops in the first quarter of 2019 as these rules are developed and are expected to go to the Board of Directors for adoption in the third quarter of 2019. More details can be found at www.baaqmd.gov/ruledev or by contacting Robert Cave, 415-749-5048, rcave@baaqmd.gov.