



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA ADVISORY

Air District holds public hearing on proposed CEQA threshold amendments

SAN FRANCISCO - The Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District will hold two public hearings to consider public input regarding proposed amendments to the Air District's California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA, Thresholds of Significance for air quality.

The Air District's CEQA Thresholds of Significance assist local jurisdictions and agencies in complying with CEQA requirements regarding potential air quality impacts of proposed projects and plans in the Bay Area.

The first hearing will be held November 18, 2009. It will be continued at a second hearing on December 2, 2009, at which time adoption of the proposed amendments will be considered. The hearings will be held at:

Bay Area Air District Headquarters
Seventh Floor Board Room
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, California

The hearings will take place during regularly scheduled Board meetings, which begin at 9:45 a.m.

The primary purpose of the CEQA thresholds is to recommend emissions levels for criteria air pollutants, ozone precursors, greenhouse gases, toxic air contaminants and odors above which there may be significant adverse effects on air quality and public health. The proposed amendments to the CEQA Thresholds of Significance provide guidance for construction projects, operational activities and plans.

The proposed thresholds of significance are available on the Air District's web site at <http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/Planning-Programs-and-Initiatives/CEQA-GUIDELINES.aspx>.

Comments or questions on the proposed thresholds should be directed to Greg Tholen at (415) 749-4954, or via e-mail to gtholen@baaqmd.gov. Comments on the proposed thresholds will be received until 5:00 pm on Monday, November 23, 2009.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency chartered with protecting air quality in the Bay Area.

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