



NEWS

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CONTACT: Ralph Borrmann
415.749.4900

Air District seeking public input on rule to reduce public health risks

Revisions proposed to Reg. 2, Rule 5, New Source Review of Toxic Air Contaminants

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air District is inviting residents to provide input on revisions to Regulation 2, Rule 5 – New Source Review of Toxic Air Contaminants.

The Air District's New Source Review Program protects air quality when large air pollution sources such as factories and power plants are newly built or modified. It integrates federal and state mandates with local goals. A preconstruction review of a project's potential toxic air emissions is required, along with the assessment of health risks, and the implementation of specific air pollution control measures to keep health risks below a specific level prior to permit issuance.

"Air District and state control programs have reduced the average Bay Area cancer risk from toxic air contaminants by 83 percent over the last 28 years," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "This further tightening of standards will further protect public health from air toxics."

Reg.2, Rule 5 requires health risk assessments for new and modified sources of air pollution, if the toxic air contaminant emissions from a proposed project will exceed the Air District's health risk assessment trigger levels. This rule mitigates public health risk by requiring the best available control technology for reducing toxics and by limiting project health risks. With this rule revision, new projects will trigger screening and mitigation requirements at much lower emission rates, and be required to reduce health impacts.

This rule revision will:

- Implement the State's revised Health Risk Assessment and Risk Management Guidelines for Stationary Sources.
- Incorporate new and revised toxic air contaminant emission rate trigger levels for health risk assessment requirements and relocate the Air District's toxic air contaminant trigger level table.
- Simplify toxic air contaminant emission calculation procedures for modified sources and update regulatory language for consistency with State guidelines.

The public can get more information, on the proposed amendments by visiting <http://www.baaqmd.gov/rules-and-compliance/rule-development/regulatory-workshops>. To submit public comments electronically, e-mail Carol Allen at callen@baaqmd.gov, or call 415-749-4702. **The public comment period closes on March 9, 2016.**

Interpretation will be available for visitors who primarily speak Spanish or Chinese.

Para asistencia en español, llame al 415-749-4609.

如需华语服务，请致电 415-749-4609.

Para sa tulong sa Tagalog, tumawag sa 415-749-4609

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The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.

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