

Compliance Advisory

July 7, 2011

New Small Boiler Certification Requirement

This Advisory is provided to inform you about Air District activities that may affect your operation. It will help you achieve and maintain compliance with applicable air quality rules and regulations.

ATTENTION: MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS OF BOILERS, STEAM GENERATORS AND PROCESS HEATERS

SUBJECT: AIR POLLUTION EMISSION LIMIT CERTIFICATON REQUIREMENT

This advisory is to inform manufacturers and distributors of boilers, steam generators and process heaters (collectively termed “boilers” or “devices”) of the **certification requirements** for new boilers that will go into effect on **January 1, 2012** and the application process for certification. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (District) amended Regulation 9, Rule 7: **Nitrogen Oxides and Carbon Monoxide from Industrial, Institutional and Commercial Boilers, Steam Generators and Process Heaters** on May 4, 2011 to simplify the emission limit certification requirement and to reduce the cost to certify boilers and/or devices.

Effective **January 1, 2012**, boilers with a rated heat input **greater than 2 million and less than 10 million BTU per hour (MM BTU/hr)** fired with natural gas or Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) must be certified to meet the emission limits in Regulation 9, Rule 7 in order to be sold in the District. Note: This requirement does not apply to boilers that require a District Permit to Operate.

The following Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) and Carbon Monoxide (CO) emission limits will apply to new boilers sold within the District on January 1, 2012, and to existing boilers on January 1, 2013:

| Heater Input Rating and Fuel | Emission Limits (at 3% oxygen) |
|--|--------------------------------|
| >2 to 5 million BTU/hr, natural gas or LPG | 30 ppmv NOx, 400 ppmv CO |
| >5 to <10 million BTU/hr, natural gas or LPG | 15 ppmv NOx, 400 ppmv CO |

- To certify a device as meeting these limits, you must submit an **application form** and testing data to demonstrate that the device meets the emission limits. To obtain a Reg 9-7, Boiler Certification application form or see a list of certified boilers, go to: www.baaqmd.gov/boiler-cert. **Note:** Individual boilers using burner assemblies **retrofit** packages must be tested to show compliance and are not required to be certified.
- Boilers must be tested using any of the following three (3) test methods:

| NOx | CO |
|---|---|
| BAAQMD Manual of Procedures, Vol IV, ST-13A | BAAQMD Manual of Procedures, Vol IV, ST-6 |
| California Air Resources Board Method 100 | California Air Resources Board Method 100 |
| US EPA Method 7E | US EPA Method 10 |

- Boilers rated **10 MM BTU/hr and higher** require a District Permit to Operate. These boilers do not require certification and new NOx emission limits are effective January 1, 2012. Boilers that use fuels other than natural gas or LPG and that are rated from **1 to less than 10 MM BTU/hr** also require a District Permit to Operate and do not require certification. New NOx limits are effective for these boilers January 1, 2013. (Refer to Sections 307 and 308).
- Regulation 9, Rule 7 also includes other requirements for boilers, including insulation requirements and stack gas temperature limits.

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- **Registration Requirement:** Operators of existing boilers with a rated heat input greater than 2 million and less than 10 million BTU per hour (MM BTU/hr) fired with natural gas or LPG must **register** each with the District and pay a registration fee. All boilers subject to Regulation 9, Rule 7 in this size category are required to be registered unless the device has a District Permit to Operate. An online registration system for these boilers is available at: www.baaqmd.gov/registration.
 - To view the Regulation 9, Rule 7, **Owners and Operators Compliance Extension Advisory** or the **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for Boilers** document visit the District website at: www.baaqmd.gov/advisories.

More information can be obtained from the following sources:

- ☎ For a copy of all District rules, including Regulation 9, Rule 7, go to: www.baaqmd.gov/rules.
- ☎ For District boundaries go to: www.baaqmd.gov/The-Air-District/Jurisdiction.aspx
- ☎ For a copy of the certification application form and a list of certified boilers, go to: www.baaqmd.gov/boiler-cert
- ☎ For questions or compliance assistance, call the Compliance Counselor Hotline at (415) 749-4999 or Michael Wall at mwall@baaqmd.gov, or (415) 749-4903.
- ☎ For questions about Air District Permits, call the Engineering Division at (415) 749-4990.

Brian Bateman
Director of Enforcement