

WORKSHOP NOTICE

April 12, 2021

TO: INTERESTED PARTIES
FROM: EXECUTIVE OFFICER / APCO
SUBJECT: **VIRTUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON CONCEPTS TO AMEND
REGULATION 2: PERMITS**

NOTICE: The Air District is taking steps to ensure Bay Area air quality and public health are protected while public health orders in San Francisco and other Bay Area counties are in place. This includes closing our 375 Beale Street office in San Francisco until further notice. For more information, please visit our website:

<https://www.baaqmd.gov/news-and-events/page-resources/2020-news/air-district-operations>.

The staff of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) will conduct a public workshop to present, discuss, and receive comments on potential concepts to amend Regulation 2: Permits. This workshop will be presented using Zoom. Information to access the virtual workshop is described below, and workshop materials will follow. Workshop materials will be posted on the Air District's Regulation 2 Amendments web page: <https://www.baaqmd.gov/reg-2-permits>

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

To join via web browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81476946686>

To join via phone: +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 814 7694 6686

- For language interpretation, contact Aneesh Rana at arana@baaqmd.gov, or 415-749-4914 at least 72 hours before the workshop.
- Para información en español, llame al 415-749-4609
- 中文聯絡電話 415-749-4609
- Nói Tiếng Việt xin gọi 415-749-4609.

BACKGROUND

The Air District is evaluating potential changes to the rules under the Permitting Regulation to minimize emissions to the environment and exposure to air pollutants by Bay Area residents. Staff would like to receive feedback from the public on next steps that the agency should take to update the Permitting Regulation. The Permitting Regulation is a collection of rules that contains the requirements with which applicants must comply to obtain an air permit when they plan to install or modify equipment that will emit regulated air pollutants into the ambient air.

Community stakeholders have long urged the Air District to re-evaluate its permitting program to ensure that communities overburdened by poor air quality do not continue to

face elevated pollutant levels compared to other areas. The Air District has recognized that there are variations in air quality at the local level and has worked with community stakeholders, industrial representatives, and the general public to implement policies and programs to improve air quality throughout the region and at the community level. However, the most recent information still shows that some areas are disproportionately impacted by air pollution than others, and some communities experience more significant health issues that make community members more vulnerable to air pollution. For these reasons, Air District staff plans to discuss with the public several potential options under consideration to improve the Permitting Regulation that focus on providing additional regulatory protections in overburdened communities.

During the public workshop, Air District staff will provide a regulatory overview of permitting programs and will present on potential concepts to amend specific rules within the Regulation, based on feedback on the permitting process up to this point that staff has received at Board meetings and through various outreach activities. The workshop will serve as a forum for workshop participants to provide feedback to staff on the topics discussed.

INFORMATION AND COMMENTS

Workshop materials will be made available prior to the workshop at: <https://www.baaqmd.gov/reg-2-permits>. Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on the Concept Paper. Comments on the Concept Paper will be accepted during the workshop or may be submitted in writing to the Air District. The deadline to submit comments on these materials is Friday, May 28, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. For questions please contact Jacob Finkle, Senior Air Quality Specialist, at jfinkle@baaqmd.gov. Staff will evaluate comments received during the workshop and during the comment period. Staff will use this evaluation to help draft amendments to specific Permitting rules along with an associated workshop report in preparation for a subsequent public workshop to be held sometime in the next few months.