



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

May 23, 2024

BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

TO: INTERESTED PARTIES
FROM: EXECUTIVE OFFICER / APCO
SUBJECT: **PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION 8:
ORGANIC COMPOUNDS, RULE 18:
EQUIPMENT LEAKS; AND ADOPTION OF A
NEGATIVE DECLARATION PURSUANT TO
THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY ACT**

The Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District will conduct a public hearing at the Air District Headquarters' Board Room, 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, California, on **Wednesday, September 4, 2024**, at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

The Board will consider:

- Adoption of Proposed amendments to Regulation 8: Organic Compounds, Rule 18: Equipment Leaks (Rule 8-18).
- Approval of a Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for proposed amendments to Rule 8-2.

The proposed amendments to Rule 8-18 address emissions of volatile organic compounds and methane (together referred to as "total organic compounds") from equipment leaks at refineries, chemical plants, and facilities that load and store organic liquids in bulk quantities in the Bay Area. The proposed amendments would require that certain components in heavy liquid service be included in a Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) Program, including valves and non-steam quenched pumps handling material with initial boiling points between 302 and 372 °F; steam-quenched pumps, compressors, pressure relief devices, and open-ended valves or lines handling material with initial boiling points greater than 302 °F; and components handling material in gas or vapor phase. The proposed amendments would also include updates to aid with readability and clarity, as well as changes covering Exemptions, Definitions, Standards, Administrative Requirements, Monitoring and Records, and Procedures. The Air District has prepared a Staff Report that provides a summary of the rationale for the rule amendments. Background information and analysis is also available in the Staff Report. The

proposed amendments and Staff Report are intended to provide the public with information in advance of a Public Hearing.

Pursuant to the CEQA (Public Resources Code §§ 21000 et seq.), an Initial Study for the proposed amendments has been conducted, concluding that they would not have significant environmental impacts. Notice is hereby given that the Air District intends to adopt a Negative Declaration for the proposed rule amendments pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080(c) and CEQA Guidelines sections 15070 et seq.

The Public Hearing Notice, CEQA Initial Study and proposed Negative Declaration, text of the proposed rule amendments, Staff Report, and other supporting documents are available at the Air District's headquarters at 375 Beale St., Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105 and on the Air District's website at <https://www.baaqmd.gov/ruledev>, and may be requested from the Air District via email at ruledevelopment@baaqmd.gov

Written comments on the proposed amended Rule 8-18, and the proposed Negative Declaration will be accepted from May 23, 2024 until June 22, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Comments should be addressed to Robert Cave, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105, or may also be sent by e-mail to ruledevelopment@baaqmd.gov. Comments may also be submitted at the Public Hearing.