



WORKSHOP NOTICE

September 7, 2021

BAY AREA

AIR QUALITY

MANAGEMENT

DISTRICT

TO: INTERESTED PARTIES
FROM: EXECUTIVE OFFICER / APCO
SUBJECT: **VIRTUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION 9: INORGANIC GASEOUS POLLUTANTS, RULE 4: NITROGEN OXIDES FROM FAN TYPE RESIDENTIAL CENTRAL FURNACES AND RULE 6: NITROGEN OXIDES EMISSIONS FROM NATURAL GAS-FIRED BOILERS AND WATER HEATERS**

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 virtual public workshop to present, discuss, and receive comments on draft amendments to Regulation 9: Inorganic Gaseous Pollutants, Rule 4: Nitrogen Oxides from Fan Type Residential Central Furnaces (Rule 9-4) and Rule 6: Nitrogen Oxides Emissions from Natural Gas-Fired Boilers and Water Heaters (Rule 9-6). This workshop will be presented using Zoom on **Thursday, October 7, 2021, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Information to access the virtual workshop and workshop materials will follow and will be posted on the Air District's Building Appliances web page: <https://www.baaqmd.gov/rules-and-compliance/rule-development/building-appliances>

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

Air District staff is developing amendments to Rules 9-4 and 9-6 to minimize emissions to the environment and resident exposure to air pollutants from building appliances. Rules 9-4 and 9-6 govern NO_x emissions from space and water heating appliances that are sold or installed in commercial and residential buildings within the Bay Area. These rules operate on a point-of-sale structure and set standards for new appliances that would be sold or installed, but do not set requirements for existing, in-place units.

The draft amendments include two phases of new standards:

- A short-term ultra-low NO_x emission limit of 14 ng/joule for natural gas-fired furnaces; and
- A long-term zero-NO_x emissions standard for natural gas-fired furnaces and water heaters.

District staff intends for these future-effective rule standards to provide manufacturers, suppliers, and consumers with a sufficient planning horizon for the proliferation of zero-NO_x appliances into the market while realizing emissions reductions and positive health outcomes as soon as practicable.

During the upcoming public workshop on the draft rule amendments, Air District staff will provide an overview of draft regulatory language that is intended to decrease NO_x emissions from building appliances. The Air District seeks feedback on the amended draft rule language and workshop report. 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/rules-and-compliance/rule-development/building-appliances>.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on the workshop documents, including draft amended rule language and workshop report. Comments 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 **Monday, November 1, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.** For questions, please contact Jennifer Elwell, Senior Air Quality Engineer, at jelwell@baaqmd.gov. Following the workshop and the close of the public comment period, staff will assess the need for changes to the draft rule amendments, with the goal of bringing the proposed final amendments to the Air District's Board of Directors for their consideration in 2022.