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: OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF BOILERS, STEAM GENERATORS, AND PROCESS HEATERS

SUBJECT: NEW AIR POLLUTION EMISSION LIMITS AND REQUIREMENTS (REGULATION 9, RULE 7)

On July 30, 2008, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District amended Regulation 9, Rule 7. The amendments established new air pollution emission limits for Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) and Carbon Monoxide (CO) from boilers, steam generators, and process heaters (collectively termed “devices” or “boilers” below). These lower emissions standards reduce air pollution that causes significant public health effects to Bay Area residents and other environmental impacts. The amendments also added new efficiency requirements and require owners and operators to register specified smaller devices with the Air District by January 1, 2011.

The rule also prohibits the sale or installation of devices with a rated heat input between 2,000,000 and 10,000,000 BTU per hour (BTU/hr) unless the manufacturer of the device certifies that it meets the new air pollution emission limits. While Air District research indicates that there are devices currently installed and operating that meet these new limits, as of January 20, 2011, no devices have been certified by the Air District.

To learn more about this regulation and determine whether it applies to your boilers, please see the attached Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).

- **Exemptions:** Regulation 9, Rule 7 entirely exempts the following devices/boilers:
  - Devices with a rated heat input less than 1,000,000 BTU/hr per hour fired with any fuel;
  - Devices with a rated heat input of 2,000,000 BTU/hr or less if fired with natural gas or liquefied petroleum gas, or any combination thereof;
  - Other exemptions listed in Section 110-117 of the rule (see [www.baaqmd.gov/rules](http://www.baaqmd.gov/rules)).

Also, devices that use less than 10% of their “annual maximum heat capacity”, as defined in the rule, are exempt from the new NOx limits and efficiency requirements if certain requirements are satisfied.

- **Registration Requirement:** Effective January 1, 2011, small boilers, steam generators, and process heaters (those rated greater than 2 MM BTU/hr but less than 10 MM BTU/hr) must register with the Air District. There is a one-time fee associated with registration. An online registration system for these devices is available at: [www.baaqmd.gov/registration](http://www.baaqmd.gov/registration).

Note: Any device currently operating under a District permit does not have to register. Larger devices (rated greater than 10 MM BTU/HR) require an Air District Permit to Operate. For requirements on District permits, please see Regulation 2, Rule 1 at: [www.baaqmd.gov/rules](http://www.baaqmd.gov/rules).
New Air Pollution Emission Limits: Effective January 1, 2011, or a later date if the District amends the rule to extend the deadline as described previously, thirty-three percent (33%) of your boilers that are rated greater than 2 MM BTU/hr but less than 5 MM BTU/hr are required to meet specified air pollution emissions limits for NOx (30 ppmv) and CO (400 ppmv).1 Note: If you have a newer boiler that was manufactured less than 10 years ago and have one or more of these newer devices at any facility, you have a longer time period to comply.2

There are several methods to determine compliance with the emission limits, one method is to consult your device/boiler maintenance or repair service representative who can measure the air pollution emission levels.

Insulation Requirements: Since January 1, 2010, insulation requirements have been in effect. These require a boiler or steam generator to not exceed a temperature of 120°F on any exposed, external surface of the device, including all pipes and ducts heated by the device. Section 311 of the rule includes several exemptions that limit the amount of insulation that may be required.

Temperature Requirement: Effective January 1, 2011, the owner or operator shall not operate a boiler or steam generator with an exhaust stack gas temperature (downstream of any economizer) that exceeds the temperatures in Section 312 of the rule.

Tune-Up Requirement: All boilers, steam generators and process heaters are required to have a tune-up once each year. Boiler owners or operators must keep records of tune-ups. The tune-up procedure can be found in the Manual of Procedures, Volume I, Part 5, on the Air District’s website at: www.baaqmd.gov/Records/MOP.aspx.

Monitoring and Records, Certification, Testing, and Tune-up Requirements: Refer to Regulation 9, Rule 7, Sections 313, 406, and the 500s Sections for additional information.

See the accompanying Compliance Assistance Advisory: “Manufacturers of Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters”

More information can be obtained from the following sources:

(parenthetical text)

For a copy of the above-listed rule or any Air District rule see: www.baaqmd.gov/rules.

For questions on the rule amendment process, contact Julian Elliot at jelliott@baaqmd.gov or (415) 749-4705.

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.

Kelly J. Wee
Director of Enforcement

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1 Refer to Section 307 of the Rule to see the revised emissions limits that may apply to your device(s).
2 Refer to Section 308 of the Rule to see the compliance schedule that may apply to your device(s).