



# Compliance Advisory

## April 1, 2020

### Small Boiler Stipulated Order for Abatement Program

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*This Advisory is provided to inform you about Air District activities that may affect your operation. It is intended to assist you in your effort to achieve and maintain compliance with applicable air pollution regulations.*

**ATTENTION: OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF BOILERS, STEAM GENERATORS AND PROCESS HEATERS.**

**SUBJECT: SMALL BOILER STIPULATED ORDER FOR ABATEMENT PROGRAM**

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (“Air District”) is offering owners and operators of small boilers—boilers rated between 2 and 10 million BTU/hour—the opportunity to participate in the Small Boiler Stipulated Order for Abatement Program (Small Boiler Program). The Small Boiler Program allows the owner/operator of non-compliant boilers time to install or retrofit boilers to meet the applicable [Regulation 9, Rule 7](#) emission limits and to avoid paying civil penalties. If you own or operate any non-complying boiler(s) and have not entered into the Small Boiler Program, you may be subject to enforcement action, including substantial monetary penalties.

#### **Background**

The Air District is the regional air quality agency charged with regulating stationary sources of air pollution in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. The Air District’s responsibilities include adopting and enforcing rules and regulations relating to air pollution, and for maintaining healthy air quality.

The Air District’s regulations establish a permit system to ensure the attainment and maintenance of air quality standards. The Air District issues permits for the operation of most types of stationary equipment that emits air pollution, including to owners of small facilities such as apartment and office buildings, schools, and small businesses like gas stations. The Air District’s permit system requires certain equipment to be registered with the District in lieu of receiving a permit. Examples of equipment subject to District permit or registration requirements that are common at small facilities include backup diesel generators and small boilers.

Air District Regulation 9, Rule 7 sets stringent limits on emissions of carbon monoxide and smog- and particulate-forming nitrogen oxides from commercial, industrial, and institutional boilers, including boilers used for water and steam heating. In general, newer, specifically designed boilers are capable of meeting Air District emission standards, and most older boilers do not comply with current Air District emission standards.

Any person operating in violation of a District regulation or permit may be subject to significant monetary penalties, as well as a court or administrative order to cease the violation.

#### **Who is Eligible for the Small Boiler Stipulated Order for Abatement Program?**

The Small Boiler Program is intended to assist small facilities that meet the program eligibility criteria by providing additional time to comply with Air District emission standards and relief from monetary penalties.

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**You may be eligible if:**

- The maximum rated heat input of each of your boilers is greater than 2 million BTU/hr and less than 10 million BTU/hr;
- Each of your boilers is fired using only natural gas, liquified petroleum gas<sup>1</sup>, or any combination thereof.
- You do not have any equipment, other than a backup diesel generator, that would need an Air District permit to operate; and,
- You have registered each of your boiler(s) with the Air District.

Once you have determined you meet the eligible criteria for the program, you can enter into the Boiler Program by visiting the [Boiler Stipulated Order of Abatement Program](#) page:

<https://www.baaqmd.gov/rules-and-compliance/compliance-assistance/boiler-stipulated-order-of-abatement-program>

**Small Boiler Registration**

To enter the Small Boiler Program, you will first need to register your boiler(s) with the Air District. To register your boiler, use the [Small Boiler Registration](#) form which can be found at [www.baaqmd.gov/registration](http://www.baaqmd.gov/registration) or use the Air District's [online permitting system](#).

A copy of Regulation 9, Rule 7 can be found on the Air District's website:

<https://www.baaqmd.gov/rules-and-compliance/current-rules>

For questions about this advisory, please contact Alme Rosquites. Air Quality Technician, at [arosquites@baaqmd.gov](mailto:arosquites@baaqmd.gov) or, (415) 749-5128.

**More information can be obtained from the following sources:**

☎ For questions or compliance assistance, call the Compliance Counselor Hotline at (415) 749-4999 or email at [Compliance@baaqmd.gov](mailto:Compliance@baaqmd.gov).

☎ For questions about Air District Permits, call the Engineering Division at (415) 749-4990.



**Jeff Gove**  
**Director of Enforcement**

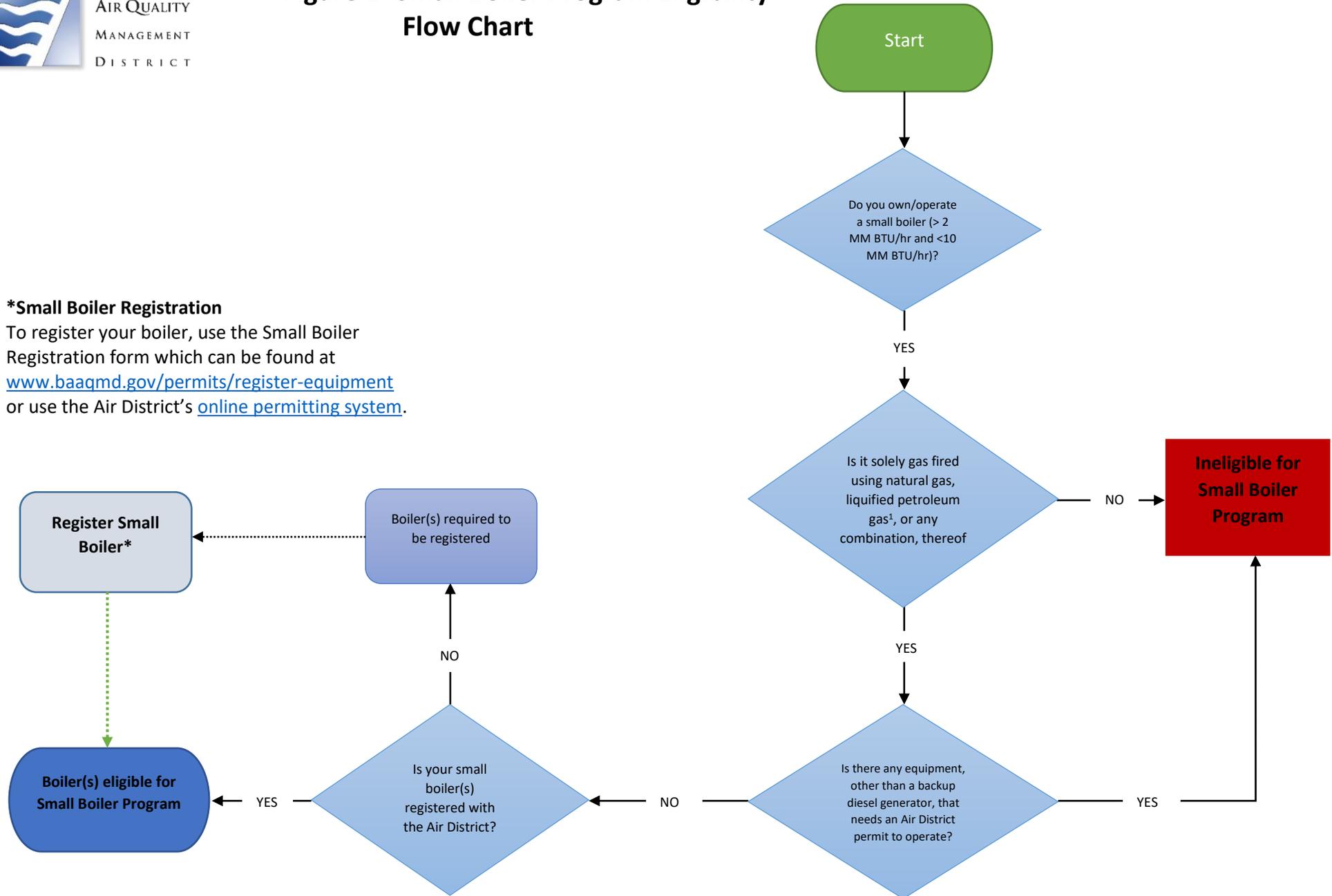
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<sup>1</sup> Liquified natural gas (e.g. propane, butane, isobutane, propylene, butylene, and their mixtures)

**Figure 1- Small Boiler Program Eligibility  
Flow Chart**

**\*Small Boiler Registration**

To register your boiler, use the Small Boiler Registration form which can be found at [www.baaqmd.gov/permits/register-equipment](http://www.baaqmd.gov/permits/register-equipment) or use the Air District's [online permitting system](#).



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