Compliance and Enforcement Division
January 20, 2011
Compliance Advisory

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: MANUFACTURERS OF BOILERS, STEAM GENERATORS, AND PROCESS HEATERS

SUBJECT: NEW AIR POLLUTION EMISSIONS LIMITS AND CERTIFICATION 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 emissions limits for Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) and Carbon Monoxide (CO) from boilers, steam generators and process heaters (collectively termed “devices” or “boilers” below). Manufacturers of devices with a rated heat input between 2,000,000 and 10,000,000 BTU per hour (BTU/hr) were also required to certify that their devices meet the new air pollution emissions limits. These requirements went into effect January 1, 2011.

As of January 20, 2011, no devices have been submitted to the Air District for certification. Air District research indicates there are newer devices currently installed and operating that meet these new air pollution emission limits. The Air District intends to propose an amendment to the rule to address the lack of certified devices and may provide additional time in which to meet the new air pollution limits.

- Manufacturer Compliance with Emissions Standards: For devices rated less than 10 MM BTU/hr, the manufacturer shall obtain confirmation that each boiler, steam generator or process heater model it sells or distributes for sale into the Air District has been tested for compliance with the applicable Regulation 9, Rule 7 emissions standards. Note: This requirement does not apply to burner assemblies sold as retrofit packages.

- Manufacturer Device Certification Requirement: Each manufacturer shall submit an application to the Air District for certification of each compliant boiler, steam generator or process heater model.

- New Air Pollution Emission Limits: Effective January 1, 2011, or later if proposed rule amendments are approved, thirty-three percent (33%) of installed boilers at any facility 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). Note: If any newer boiler is operating that was manufactured less than 10 years ago and the facility has one or more of these newer devices at any location, they will have a longer time period to comply.

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

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

In addition to the above requirements for manufacturers of these devices/boilers, the regulation requires device owners and operators to register specified smaller devices (>2MMBtu/hr and <10 MMBtu/hr) with the Air District by January 1, 2011, to added new efficiency requirements, and required owners and operators

See the accompanying Compliance Assistance Advisory: "Owners and Operators of Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters."

More information can be obtained from the following sources:

- 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 je Elliot@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