



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182  
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT**

**PROJECT TITLE: PROPOSED AMENDED RULE 1150.1 – CONTROL OF GASEOUS EMISSIONS FROM MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILLS**

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is the Lead Agency and will prepare a Notice of Exemption for the project identified above.

The SCAQMD has reviewed the proposed project pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines §15002 (k)(1), the first step of a three-step process for deciding which document to prepare for a project subject to CEQA. The currently proposed amendments to Rule 1150.1 include: 1) lowering the Gas Collection and Control System (GCCS) emission limits; 2) implementing operation standards for control devices, including wellhead pressure gauges and enclosed flares; 3) modifying monitoring and data recording and reporting intervals; and 4) adding minor clarifications and editorial corrections to the rule. Staff has prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 1150.1 for the following reasons: 1) the proposed amendments incorporate state regulations adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) that specify requirements for municipal solid waste landfills; and 2) collection and control equipment required by CARB's regulation has already been installed and is currently in operation at all affected South Coast Basin municipal solid waste landfills since the adoption of the current rule on April 5, 1985. Additionally, based on studies done in the South Coast Basin by CARB, the current gas collection and control equipment at affected facilities is sufficient to comply with the lower limit and report values below the 25 ppmv limits. Therefore, the proposed amendments incorporate existing state regulations and do not require any major modifications or changes to existing operations. Since it can be seen with certainty that the proposed project has no potential to adversely impact air quality or any other environmental area, it is exempt from CEQA pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines §15061 (b)(3) – Review for Exemption. Furthermore, the proposed rule is categorically exempt because it is considered an action to protect or enhance the environment pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15308 – Class 8 Categorical Exemption. The Notice of Exemption will be filed with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties immediately following the adoption of the proposed project.

Any questions regarding this Notice of Exemption should be sent to Jeff Inabinet (c/o Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources) at the above address. Mr. Inabinet can also be reached at 909.396.2453. Questions regarding Proposed Amended Rule 1150.1 should be directed to Mr. Dairo Moody at 909.396.2333.

**Date:** April 1, 2011

**Signature:** *Steve Smith*

Steve Smith, Ph.D.  
Program Supervisor  
Planning, Rule Development &  
Area Sources

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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<b>To:</b> County Clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino	<b>From:</b> South Coast Air Quality Management District 21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765
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**Project Title:**

Proposed Amended Rule 1150.1 – Control of Gaseous Emissions from Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

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**Project Location:**

South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) area of jurisdiction consisting of the four-county South Coast Air Basin (Orange County and the non-desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties), and the Riverside County portions of the Salton Sea Air Basin and the Mojave Desert Air Basin.

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**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The proposed amendments to Rule 1150.1 incorporate state regulations adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) that specify requirements for municipal solid waste landfills. Specifically, the proposed amendments include: 1) lowering the Gas Collection and Control System (GCCS) emission limits; 2) implementing operation standards for control devices, including wellhead pressure gauges and enclosed flares; 3) modifying monitoring and data recording and reporting intervals; and 4) adding minor clarifications and editorial corrections to the rule. The proposed amendments will affect already installed control devices at existing facilities.

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**Public Agency Approving Project:**

South Coast Air Quality Management District

**Agency Carrying Out Project:**

South Coast Air Quality Management District

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**Exempt Status:**

General Concepts [CEQA Guidelines §15002 (k)(1)];

General Rule Exemption [CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3)]

Categorical Exemption – An Action to Protect or Enhance the Environment [CEQA Guidelines §15308]

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**Reasons why project is exempt:**

Staff has prepared this Notice of Exemption (NOE) for Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 1150.1 for the following reasons: 1) the proposed amendments incorporate state regulations adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) that specify requirements for municipal solid waste landfills; and 2) collection and control equipment required by CARB's regulation has already been installed and is currently in operation at all affected South Coast Basin municipal solid waste landfills since the adoption of the current rule on April 5, 1985. Additionally, based on studies done in the South Coast Basin by CARB, the current gas collection and control equipment at affected facilities is sufficient to comply with the lower limit and report values below the 25 ppmv limits. Therefore, the proposed amendments incorporate existing state regulations and do not require any major modifications or changes to existing operations. Since the proposed project is approving established regulations and will not require new equipment that would generate new adverse environmental impacts, it can be seen with certainty that the proposed project has no potential to adversely impact air quality or any other environmental area and is exempt from CEQA pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines §15061 (b)(3) – Review for Exemption. Furthermore, the proposed rule is categorically exempt because it is considered an action to protect or enhance the environment pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15308 – Class 8 Categorical Exemption.

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**Certification Date:**

SCAQMD Governing Board Hearing: April 1, 2011, 9:00 a.m.; SCAQMD Headquarters

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**CEQA Contact Person:**

Mr. Jeff Inabinet

**Phone Number:**

(909) 396-2453

**Fax Number:**

(909) 396-3324

**Email:**

<jinabinet@aqmd.gov>

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**Rule Contact Person:**

Mr. Dairo Moody

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(909) 396-3324

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<dmoody@aqmd.gov>

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Date Received for Filing \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Steve Smith, Ph.D.  
Program Supervisor - CEQA  
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources