



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 (PAR) 307.1 – ALTERNATIVE FEES FOR AIR TOXICS EMISSIONS INVENTORY

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

PAR 307.1 will: 1) include a new category of billing for facilities in the Voluntary Risk Reduction Program; 2) include a provision to reimburse the SCAQMD for costs associated with public meetings required by Rule 1402; 3) replace the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes with references to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes instead; 4) replace references to the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) "Air Toxics 'Hot Spots' Program Facility Prioritization Guidelines, July 1990" with the most current version of SCAQMD's "Facility Prioritization Procedures For AB 2588 Program;" and, 5) improve clarity.

SCAQMD staff has reviewed the proposed project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15002 (k) – General Concepts, the three-step process for deciding which document to prepare for a project subject to CEQA per CEQA Guidelines §15061 – Review for Exemption, procedures for determining if a project is exempt from CEQA. Since these amendments are strictly administrative in nature, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the adoption of PAR 307.1 may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Thus, the project is considered to be exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15061 (b)(3) – Activities Covered by General Rule. Additionally, PAR 307.1 is statutorily exempt from CEQA requirements, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15273 – Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges, because the proposed amendments to Rule 307.1 involve charges by public agencies for the purpose of meeting operating expenses and financial reserve requirements.

A Notice of Exemption has been prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15062 - Notice of Exemption. If the project is approved, the Notice of Exemption will be filed with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Any questions regarding this Notice of Exemption should be sent to Cynthia Carter (c/o Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources) at the above address. Ms. Carter can also be reached at (909) 396-2431.

Date: September 6, 2016

Signature:

Jillian Wong

Jillian Wong, Ph.D.
Planning and Rules Manager
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: County Clerks of
Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside,
San Bernardino

From: South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Project Title:

Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 307.1 – Alternative Fees for Air Toxics Emissions Inventory

Project Location:

PAR 307.1 will affect facilities located within the SCAQMD's boundary. The SCAQMD has jurisdiction over all of Orange County, the urban portions of Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties southwest of the San Bernardino and San Gabriel mountains, and nearly all of Riverside county, with the exception of communities near the state border.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

PAR 307.1 will: 1) include a new category of billing for facilities in the Voluntary Risk Reduction Program; 2) include a provision to reimburse the SCAQMD for costs associated with public meetings required by Rule 1402; 3) replace the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes with references to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes instead; 4) replace references to the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) "Air Toxics 'Hot Spots' Program Facility Prioritization Guidelines, July 1990" with the most current version of SCAQMD's "Facility Prioritization Procedures For AB 2588 Program;" and, 5) improve clarity.

Public Agency Approving Project:

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Agency Carrying Out Project:

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Exempt Status:

CEQA Guidelines §15002 (k) - General Concepts (Three Step Process)
CEQA Guidelines §15061 (b)(3) – Activities Covered by General Rule
CEQA Guidelines §15273 (a) - Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges

Reasons why project is exempt:

SCAQMD staff has reviewed PAR 307.1 and because these amendments are strictly administrative in nature, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the adoption of PAR 307.1 may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Thus, the project is considered to be exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15061 (b)(3) – Activities Covered by General Rule. Additionally, PAR 307.1 is statutorily exempt from CEQA requirements, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15273 – Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges, because the proposed amendments to Rule 307.1 involve charges by public agencies for the purpose of meeting operating expenses and financial reserve requirements. A Notice of Exemption has been prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15062 - Notice of Exemption. If the project is approved, the Notice of Exemption will be filed with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Date When Project Will Be Considered for Approval (subject to change):

SCAQMD Governing Board Hearing: October 7, 2016, 9:00 a.m.; SCAQMD Headquarters

CEQA Contact Person:	Phone Number:	Fax Number:	Email:
Ms. Cynthia Carter	(909) 396-2431	(909) 396-3324	ccarter@aqmd.gov
Rule Contact Person:	Phone Number:	Fax Number:	Email:
Ms. Uyen-Uyen Vo	(909) 396-2238	(909) 396-3324	uvo@aqmd.gov

Date Received for Filing: _____

Signature: _____

(To be signed upon project approval)

Jillian Wong, Ph.D.
Planning and Rules Manager
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources