

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FROM THE  
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

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

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

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**Project Title:** Proposed Amended Rule 1100 – Implementation Schedule for NOx Facilities

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**Project Location:** The project is located within the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) jurisdiction which includes the four-county South Coast Air Basin (all of 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 (SSAB) and Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB).

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**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** South Coast AQMD staff is proposing to amend Rule 1100 to clarify the definition of “industry-specific category” to reflect the original intent for this definition which was to include refineries and related industries that will be subject to Proposed Rule 1109.1 – Refinery Equipment, even though Rule 1109.1 has not yet been adopted. Both the adoption of Rule 1100 in December 2018 and the amendment in November 2019 were based on the assumption that the development and adoption of Rule 1109.1 would be completed in 2019. The proposed amendments to Rule 1100 will affirm that refineries and related industries within the industry-specific category are exempt from the NOx emission limits in the following three source-specific South Coast AQMD rules: Rule 1110.2 – Emissions from Gaseous- and Liquid-Fueled Engines; Rule 1146 – Emissions of Oxides of Nitrogen from Industrial, Institutional, and Commercial Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters; and Rule 1146.1 – Emissions of Oxides of Nitrogen from Small Industrial, Institutional, and Commercial Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters.

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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:**  
CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption

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**Reasons why project is exempt:** Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), South Coast AQMD, as Lead Agency, has reviewed Proposed Amended Rule 1100 in accordance with: 1) CEQA Guidelines Section 15002(k) – General Concepts, the three-step process for deciding which document to prepare for a project subject to CEQA; and 2) CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 – Review for Exemption, procedures for determining if a project is exempt from CEQA. Since clarifying the rule’s original intent is administrative and procedural in nature and would not cause any physical changes that would affect any environmental topic area, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the Proposed Amended Rule 1100 may have any significant adverse effects on the environment. Therefore, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption.

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**Date When Project Will Be Considered for Approval (subject to change):**  
South Coast AQMD Governing Board Hearing: January 10, 2020; South Coast AQMD Headquarters


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**Date Received for Filing:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** 

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Planning, Rule Development, and Area Sources