

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

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**To:** County Clerks for the Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino; and Governor's Office of Planning and Research – State Clearinghouse  
**From:** South Coast Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

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**Project Title:** Proposed Rule 1460 – Control of Particulate Emissions from Metal Recycling and Shredding Operations

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**Project Location:** The proposed project is located within the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (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 portion of the Salton Sea Air Basin and the non-Palo Verde, Riverside County portion of the Mojave Desert Air Basin.

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**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** Proposed Rule 1460 (PR 1460) has been developed to supplement existing requirements in South Coast AQMD Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust to further reduce community exposure to fugitive dust emissions from metal recycling facilities and metal shredding facilities that process and recycle scrap metal. PR 1460 contains best management practices designed to minimize dust which includes requirements to: 1) spray water during facility operations; 2) require a vehicle speed limit; and 3) pave all areas where metal recycling and metal shredding activities occur to minimize fugitive dust and track out. PR 1460 best management practices also provide options for minimizing fugitive dust from metal storage piles by: 1) spraying water; 2) installing three-sided enclosures; or 3) covering. PR 1460 also contains requirements for facilities to register with South Coast AQMD, install facility contact signage, and conduct housekeeping and recordkeeping activities. Facilities located near sensitive receptors need to monitor wind speeds and cease specified activities during high winds. Implementation of PR 1460 will reduce fugitive particulate matter (PM) emissions and lower community exposure to PM.

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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:** South Coast AQMD, as Lead Agency, has reviewed the proposed project (PR 1460) pursuant to: 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. The activities associated with implementing PR 1460 to further minimize fugitive emissions of particulate matter are supplemental to the existing requirements in South Coast AQMD Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust, including the ongoing use of water for dust suppression purposes, such that any additional use of water is expected to be limited as the facilities must maximize the efficient use of water in accordance with water conservation requirements proclaimed in Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-7-22 issued on March 28, 2022. Further, to satisfy the building enclosure and paving requirements in PR 1460, only minor physical modifications, if any, are expected which may be achieved without construction or via minimal construction activities, depending on the affected facility. Thus, it can be seen with certainty that implementing the proposed project would not cause a significant adverse effect on the environment, and is therefore, exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption.

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**Date of Project Approval:** South Coast AQMD Governing Board Public Hearing: November 4, 2022

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

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

 November 4, 2022

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