

South Coast Air Quality Management District
Notice of Public Consultation Meeting
**Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees and
Fiscal Year 2025-26 Proposed Budget and Work Program**

Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees

March 18, 2025
10:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Webinar Meeting – from PC or Laptop
<https://scaqmd.zoom.us/j/94395548218>
Zoom Webinar ID: 943 9554 8218
Teleconference Dial In +1 669 900 6833

**Proposed Budget and Work Program and
Proposed Amended Regulation III**

April 8, 2025
1:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Webinar Meeting – from PC or Laptop
<https://scaqmd.zoom.us/j/92330885140>
Zoom Webinar ID: 923 3088 5140
Teleconference Dial In +1 669 900 6833

(Please note, if the Zoom webinar link provided does not work, copy the link into web browser, or directly enter the webinar ID into the Zoom web or mobile application)

The Public Consultation meetings will be conducted via video conferencing (Zoom) which can be accessed via your computer or smart phone. Alternatively, stakeholders can phone-in to participate. We understand that this is not the same as an in-person public meeting; however, staff will take the time to listen to comments from all stakeholders. You are invited to attend the meetings electronically through Zoom or the phone. Instructions on how to participate can be found at the top of this notice.

Purpose of Meetings

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) has scheduled two Public Consultation meetings. The primary purpose of the first meeting is to solicit information and suggestions from the public on Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees. The purpose of the second meeting is to present the South Coast AQMD’s Proposed Budget and Work Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 and Proposed Amended Regulation III. These Public Consultation meetings will provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to discuss Proposed Amended Regulation III and the Proposed Budget and Work Program. The Proposed FY 2025-26 Budget and Work Program, fee adjustments, and Proposed Amended Regulation III are scheduled for a Public Hearing before the South Coast AQMD Governing Board on May 2, 2025 (subject to change).

Regulation III Background

Regulation III primarily establishes the fee rates and schedules to recover South Coast AQMD’s costs of regulating and providing services to permitted sources.

Summary of Proposed Amendments to Regulation III

The proposed amendments to Regulation III consist of several components. First, staff is proposing to amend applicable fees in Rules 301, 303, 304, 304.1, 306, 307.1, 308, 309, 311, 313, 314, 315 and 316 effective July 1, 2025, to correspond with the 3.0% increase in the calendar year 2024 California Consumer Price Index (CPI) under Rule 320 – Automatic Adjustment Based on Consumer Price Index for Regulation III Fees. Second, staff is proposing new or modified fees which are necessary to provide more specific cost recovery for Regulation III rules including but not be limited to Rule 301. The proposed new or modified fees include, but will not be limited to, Rule 1180 and 1180.1 operation and maintenance fees regarding refinery related community air monitoring, and new fees for optional Rule 212(c) public notice distribution. In addition, staff is proposing minor administrative changes that include clarifications, deletions, insertions, or corrections of existing rule language which have no fee impact to Regulation III. These minor administrative changes may include but will not be limited to Rule 301. The proposals which have no fee impacts include but will not be limited to, clarifications on facilities that are not eligible for abbreviated reporting, clarifications that facilities subject to Rule 317.1 are subject to filing annual emissions reports and extending the annual emission report filing deadline for 2025 emissions to May 1, 2026.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and South Coast AQMD’s certified regulatory program (Public Resources Code Section 21080.5, CEQA Guidelines Section 15251(l) and South Coast AQMD Rule 110), the South Coast AQMD, as lead agency, is reviewing the proposed project (Proposed Amended Regulation III) to determine if it will result in any potential adverse environmental impacts. Appropriate CEQA documentation will be prepared based on the analysis.

Available Supporting Documents

The following supporting documents are expected to be available on or before March 14, 2025:

- Preliminary Draft of Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees
- Preliminary Draft Staff Report for Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees
- Draft Socioeconomic Impact Assessment on the Rule 320 CPI-based Fee Increase

The following additional supporting documents are expected to be available on or before April 1, 2025:

- Proposed Budget and Work Program
- Draft Socioeconomic Impact Assessment will be included in the Draft Staff Report for Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees

To Obtain Copies of the Above Documents

Copies of the above documents may be obtained from:

Lisa Tanaka/Public Advisor
South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Phone: (909) 396-2432
Email: PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov

The documents will also be available from the South Coast AQMD's Proposed Rules and Finance websites at:

- <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/scaqmd-rule-book/proposed-rules/regulation-iii>, and
- <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/about/finance>

Submission of Comments or Documents

Comments, documents, studies, reports, or other relevant information may be submitted to the following contacts:

Proposed Amended Regulation III:
Albert Ochoa
Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation
South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Email: aocchoa@aqmd.gov Phone: (909) 396-3497

Budget and Work Program:
John Kampa
Finance
South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Email: jkampa@aqmd.gov Phone: (909) 396-3026

CEQA:
Jivar Afshar
Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation/CEQA
South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Email: jafshar@aqmd.gov Phone: (909) 396-2040

Socioeconomic:
Xian-Liang (Tony) Tian, Ph.D.
Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation/Socio
South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Email: ttian@aqmd.gov Phone: (909) 396-2323

Written comments relating to the CPI-based fee increase will be accepted until April 4, 2025, if they are to be incorporated into the Rule 320 report required by the Governing Board; however, late comments about the CPI increase, along with comments relating to other proposed fee increases and administrative amendments will be accepted and considered until April 15, 2025.

The public hearing to consider adoption of the FY 2025-26 Budget and Work Program, fee adjustments, and Proposed Amended Regulation III is scheduled for Friday, May 2, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium at the South Coast AQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters and via a Zoom link that will be available in the May 2, 2025 Governing Board agenda, which will be released no later than 72 hours prior to the public hearing.

Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the public consultation meeting. The agenda will be made available, upon request, in appropriate alternative formats to assist persons with a disability (Gov't Code Section 54954.2(a)). In addition, other documents may be requested in alternative formats and languages. Any disability or language related accommodation must be requested as soon as practicable. Requests will be accommodated, unless providing the accommodation would result in a fundamental alteration or undue burden to the South Coast AQMD. Please contact Kalam Cheung at (909) 396-3281 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to kcheung@aqmd.gov.