

South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Notice of Public Workshop

**Proposed Rule 2306 – Freight Rail Yards and Proposed Rule 316.2 – Fees for Rule 2306**

Tuesday, June 4, 2024  
1:00 p.m.

Webinar Meeting Link:  
<https://scaqmd.zoom.us/j/99824774155>  
Zoom Webinar ID: 998 2477 4155  
Teleconference Dial In +1 669 900 6833

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

The Public Workshop will be conducted via video conferencing (Zoom) which can be accessed via your personal 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 meeting electronically through Zoom or cell phone. Instructions on how to participate can be found at the top of this notice.

***Purpose of This Meeting***

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) has scheduled a Public Workshop on Proposed Rule 2306 – Freight Rail Yards (PR 2306) and Proposed Rule 316.2 – Fees for Rule 2306 (PR 316.2) for the purpose of soliciting information and suggestions from the public. PR 2306 and PR 316.2 are scheduled to be considered for adoption at a Public Hearing before the South Coast AQMD Governing Board on August 2, 2024 (subject to change).

***Background***

The 2016 and 2022 Air Quality Management Plans (AQMP) included a suite of facility-based mobile source measures to collectively reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx) from the goods movement sector, to assist in meeting state and federal air quality standards for ozone and fine particulate matter. PR 2306 is designed to implement one such measure, namely Control Measure MOB-02: Emission Reductions at Rail Yards and Intermodal Facilities, by establishing emission reduction requirements for owners and operators of new and existing freight rail yards. PR 2306 also aligns with the Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community Emission Reduction Plan priorities to reduce emissions from rail yards impacting the San Bernardino/Muscoy, Wilmington/Carson/West Long Beach, East Los Angeles/Boyle Heights/West Commerce, and Southeast Los Angeles communities.

***Objectives of Proposed Rules***

PR 2306 seeks to reduce NOx emissions associated with freight rail yard operations, to assist with attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone and fine particulate matter while providing additional health benefits to the local communities surrounding new and existing freight rail yards. The proposed rule requires owners or operators of freight rail yards to meet or exceed emission reduction targets. The proposed rule will ensure that emission reductions will be proportional or greater in the South Coast AQMD relative to reductions throughout California from implementation of state regulations addressing freight rail yard emission sources. PR 316.2 seeks to establish fees to be paid by freight rail yard owners or operators subject to PR 2306 to recover costs incurred by South Coast AQMD for PR 2306 implementation.

***California Environmental Quality Act***

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), PR 2306 is a later activity within the scope of the program approved earlier in the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) per CEQA Guidelines Section

15168(c)(2), and the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the 2022 AQMP adequately describes the activities associated with implementing PR 2306 such that no new environmental document will be required. In addition, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15002(k) and 15061, PR 316.2 involves charges by public agencies for the purpose of meeting operating expenses which are statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15273. A Notice of Exemption will be prepared for PR 316.2 pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062, and if approved, the Notice of Exemption will be filed for posting with the State Clearinghouse of the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, and with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

***Available Supporting Documents***

The following supporting documents will be available on or before May 17, 2024:

- Preliminary Draft of PR 2306
- Preliminary Draft of PR 316.2
- Preliminary Draft Staff Report for PR 2306 and PR 316.2

***To Obtain Copies of the Above Documents***

Copies of the above documents will be available no later than May 17, 2024, and may be obtained from:

Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor  
South Coast AQMD  
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
Phone: (909) 396-2432  
Email: [PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov](mailto:PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov)

The documents will be available for on the South Coast AQMD website at:

<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/rules/proposed-rules/rule-2306>

***Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility***

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the public workshop. The agenda will be made available, upon request, in appropriate alternative formats to assist persons with a disability (Government 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 Elaine Shen at (909) 396-2715 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to [eshen@aqmd.gov](mailto:eshen@aqmd.gov).

***Submission of Comments or Documents***

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

<p><b>PR 2306 and PR 316.1:</b> Cindy Guzman De La Rocha Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation South Coast AQMD 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765 Email: <a href="mailto:RailyardISR@aqmd.gov">RailyardISR@aqmd.gov</a> Phone: (909) 396-3209</p>	<p><b>CEQA:</b> Jivar Afshar Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation, CEQA Section South Coast Air Quality Management District 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765 Email: <a href="mailto:jafshar@aqmd.gov">jafshar@aqmd.gov</a> Phone: (909) 396-2040</p>
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Written comments on PR 2306 and PR 316.2 will be accepted until **June 18, 2024**.