



# Compliance Assistance **ADVISORY**

**SUBJECT: SMAQMD Permit Requirements for Car Wash Waste Water Evaporators**

**Advisory #06-05**

**December 2006**

## ***IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF CAR WASHING FACILITIES WITH WASTE WATER EVAPORATORS***

The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) is responsible for ensuring that air quality within Sacramento County meets Federal and State standards. In an effort to ensure healthier air for residents of Sacramento County, the SMAQMD has adopted rules requiring Permits to Operate (P/O) for equipment that releases air contaminants. Stationary source permits issued by the SMAQMD are designed to reduce air pollution and help Sacramento County meet air quality standards.

The purpose of this advisory is to alert owners and operators of car washes with waste water evaporators of SMAQMD Rule 201, *General Permit Requirements*. Rule 201 requires you to obtain a SMAQMD P/O for all evaporators with a maximum rated heat input capacity of 1 million Btu per hour or greater. In addition, Rule 411, *NOx from Boilers, Process Heaters, and Steam Generators* establishes emission limits for this type of equipment and may also apply to waste water evaporators found at car washing facilities.

Facility managers at car washes are advised to inspect their facilities to determine if this type of equipment exists. If this type of equipment is present and a SMAQMD P/O has not been obtained, you are further advised to immediately obtain a P/O. You must submit an application to obtain a SMAQMD Permit to Operate. Applications may be found at our web site at [www.airquality.org/permits/forms/appforms.shtml](http://www.airquality.org/permits/forms/appforms.shtml). Any facility operating this type of equipment without a P/O is subject to a Notice of Violation and penalties pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 42402.

For more information on SMAQMD Rules and Regulations or to obtain permit application forms, please visit the SMAQMD's web site at [www.airquality.org](http://www.airquality.org). If you have any questions about the permitting process, you may call Brian Krebs at the SMAQMD at (916) 874-4856. You may also call the SMAQMD's *Compliance Assistance Hotline* at (916) 874-4884 for free, confidential assistance on any SMAQMD requirement.