Compliance Assistance



ADVISORY

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD'S (CARB'S) CRITERIA AND TOXICS REPORTING REGULATION

Advisory #19-05 May 2019

COMMENT PERIOD FOR PROPOSED CHANGES TO CARB'S CRITERIA AND TOXICS REPORTING REGULATION ENDS JUNE 7, 2019

This advisory provides Sacramento County business owners and operators information about proposed changes to a state regulation that may have a significant impact on businesses within the Sac Metro Air District.

Background

In 2017, Assembly Bill 617 (C. Garcia, Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017) was adopted to develop a new community-focused program to more effectively reduce exposure to air pollution and preserve public health. This bill directs the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and all local air districts, including the Sac Metro Air District, to take measures to protect communities disproportionately impacted by air pollution. The key components to the new AB 617 mandate include: community-level air monitoring and emission reduction plans, accelerated review of retrofit pollution control technologies on industrial facilities subject to the Cap-and-Trade program, enhanced emission reporting requirements, and increased penalty provisions for air quality violations. The emission reporting component of the AB 617 program is the focus of this advisory.

During its December 2018 meeting, CARB adopted the "Regulation for the Reporting of Criteria Air Pollutants and Toxic Air Contaminants", which requires affected businesses located in AB 617 communities to annually report emissions from all their permitted activities to air districts and CARB. Simultaneously, CARB directed its staff to consider further refinements to the regulation's applicability. CARB staff responded to that direction, and on May 13, 2019 released proposed changes to the regulation for a 25-day public review and comment period. The proposed changes are available at:

https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/index.php/rulemaking/2018/proposed-regulation-reporting-criteria-air-pollutants-and-toxic-air-contaminants. The final day for submitting comments is June 7, 2019.

AB 617 Enhanced Emissions Reporting

In its revised regulation, CARB staff have expanded the scope of applicability and is now proposing that the majority of all permitted sources in the state be subject to enhanced emissions reporting requirements. Compliance with this new reporting mandate is a significant new requirement for permitted businesses in California, especially for small businesses who may

have not previously reported their emissions. There will also be additional costs associated with implementing and complying with the regulation. Further, CARB staff is proposing to amend the regulation under an expedited rulemaking process.

More Information

Should you wish to learn more about this regulation, please visit CARB's website listed above. If you have questions or wish to submit comments on the proposed regulation, please contact CARB staff at ctr-report@arb.ca.gov or Patrick Gaffney at 916-322-7303.

Sac Metro Air District advisories are available online at: http://www.airquality.org/businesses/compliance-with-permits-rules/compliance-advisories or if you have questions regarding District permitting you may call Brian Krebs at (916) 874-4856.