IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL PROPERTY OWNERS AND CONTRACTORS WITH CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS LOCATED IN EASTERN SACRAMENTO COUNTY

The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) has determined that naturally-occurring asbestos (NOA) is present throughout areas of eastern Sacramento County. NOA had previously been discovered in the Folsom area and reported in Advisory 04-05(2). After the discovery of NOA in Folsom, SMAQMD commissioned the California Department of Conservation Geologic Survey to do additional testing and draft a map for Sacramento County identifying all areas of potential NOA. Complete text of their report and accompanying map can be found at http://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/minerals/hazardous_minerals/asbestos/east_sacramento.htm.

Based on the results of the map entitled Relative Likelihood for the Presence of Naturally Occurring Asbestos in Eastern Sacramento County, California, the SMAQMD Air Pollution Control Officer has declared that land identified as “Areas Moderately Likely to Contain NOA” is subject to the requirements of Section 93105 of the California Code of Regulations, Asbestos Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) for Construction, Grading, Quarrying, and Surface Mining Operations. Complete text of this regulation can be found at http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/atcm/asb2atcm.htm.

The ATCM establishes specific testing, notification, and engineering controls prior to grading, quarrying, or surface mining in construction zones where NOA is located on projects of any size. There are additional notification and engineering controls at work sites greater than one acre. These projects require the submittal of a “Dust Mitigation Plan” and approval by the SMAQMD prior to the start of the project. A template can be found at http://www.airquality.org/compliance/NOA/NOADustMitPlanApplication.pdf.

Property may be considered exempt from the requirements of the ATCM if a geologic evaluation has been conducted by a registered geologist and establishes no asbestos is present in concentrations greater than or equal to .25%. This determination must be made by a registered geologist and submitted to the SMAQMD for review and approval prior to the start of the project.

Dust from earth moving activities and track out of dirt to public roads will be monitored by SMAQMD at sites where the ATCM applies. Failure to comply with the dust control requirements of the ATCM can result in civil or criminal penalties as specified under California Health and Safety Code Sections 42400-42402. If you have any questions regarding this information, you may contact the SMAQMD Asbestos Unit at 874-4800.