

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN



AIR QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Compliance Assistance

# ADVISORY

SUBJECT: Continual Pressure Differential  
Requirement

**ADVISORY #17-01**

**March 2017**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL ASBESTOS ABATEMENT CONTRACTORS

### BACKGROUND

The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (Sacramento AQMD) Rule 902, *Asbestos*, Section 301.3, states owners and operators of a renovation or a demolition where Regulated Asbestos Containing Material (RACM) is being disturbed shall ensure that a containment area have a pressure differential of at least minus 0.02 inches of water, with respect to the area outside the containment area. This pressure differential must be maintained from start date to completion date of an abatement project and be evidenced by a properly connected, operating, and calibrated pressure gauge. Evidence of a negative pressure differential is necessary to ensure that a proper containment is in place throughout the duration of asbestos abatement projects.

Rule 902, Section 301.6 further requires at least one on-site representative be present during renovations and demolitions when RACM is disturbed. They must have reviewed the provisions of Rule 902 and understand how to remain in compliance with the regulation.

All of these requirements are necessary to protect the general public, as well as neighboring tradespeople and businesses, from exposure to fugitive asbestos fibers resulting from asbestos abatement work.

### CURRENT REQUIREMENTS

The purpose of this advisory is to remind the asbestos abatement contractor community that Sacramento AQMD's Rule 902 requires evidence of a continual pressure differential of -0.02" from the start to completion of an asbestos abatement project and that the on-site representative is responsible for maintaining compliance with this requirement. It is expected that, upon the request of Sacramento AQMD staff, the on-site supervisor be able to demonstrate the compliance status with this requirement.

Please be advised, when conducting site inspections or contacting the on-site representative to verify compliance with any aspect of Rule 902, the Sacramento AQMD will also confirm the project's compliance status with the continual pressure differential standard.

### MORE INFORMATION

You can find more information on our Asbestos program by visiting [www.airquality.org](http://www.airquality.org) or by calling the Sacramento AQMD asbestos consultation line at (916) 874-4800 for assistance with any asbestos-related requirements.