

Air Pollution Rules

The California Health and Safety Code gives the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (District) primary responsibility for controlling air pollution from stationary sources in order to protect public health. This responsibility includes the authority to develop, adopt, and enforce rules. The rules often outline requirements for specific activities, including gasoline storage, oil and gas processing, painting and refinishing products and operations, solvent usage, dry cleaning, asphalt paving, and boilers and process heaters.

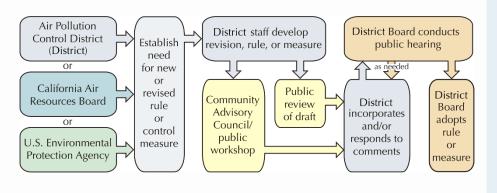
This District is required by state and federal law to adopt rules to control certain sources of pollution. These rules change, and new ones are adopted, as knowledge about air pollution and control methods grows, and as requirements evolve. Some new rules needed for the future are identified in the District's air quality attainment plans.

Air Quality Attainment Plans and Rules

Ths District adopts air quality attainment plans to show how we will improve the quality of our air to meet state and/or federal clean-air standards. Our air currently does not meet the state eight-hour ozone standard. The District's 2016 Ozone Plan addresses the California Clean Air Act requirements to plan for attainment and maintenance of the state one-hour and eight-hour ozone standards.

Based on current data, the county is in attainment of the new federal ozone standard, announced in October 2015. The U.S. EPA has indicated that attainment/non-attainment designations for the new standard will be made in October 2017.

Adoption of Air Pollution Control Rules



Frequently Asked Questions

What happens if the District does not adopt a local rule that is required by state or federal law?

- Agencies could issue
 additional requirements
 for the District, could
 oversee the District's
 operations very closely,
 or even take over
 operations. Businesses
 permitted by the District
 could also face additional
 requirements.
- Organizations, agencies, and individuals could sue the District; courts could issue judgments requiring the District to adopt the rule, and to pay court costs and damages.

How does the District adopt or change a rule?

As shown on the left, agencies first identify the need for a new or revised rule or measure.

Staff then develop a draft, working with the District's Community Advisory Council, regulated industries, and the public. Once a final version is developed, and public hearings have been held as required and appropriate, the District Board adopts the new or revised rule or measure.

Overview

Rules Overview

The District's Rulebook is available in paper form, and on our website. This list shows the different categories of rules.

Regulation I: General Provisions (Rules 101-107) Includes definitions and general rule information

Regulation II: Permits (Rules 201-213)
Permitting procedures, fees, exemptions, and appeals

Regulation III: Prohibitions (Rules 301-370)
Rules covering specific types of activities and processes

Regulation IV: Agricultural Burning (Rules 401-403) Agricultural burning permits and enforcement

Regulation V: Hearing Board (Rules 501-519) Rules covering Hearing Board procedures

Regulation VI: Emergencies (Rules 601-609)

Plans during extreme air quality events and episodes

Regulation VII: Conformity (Rules 701-702)

Conformity of transportation and other areas to implementation plans

Regulation VIII: New Source Review (Rules 801-810)

Procedures relating to new and modified sources of air pollution

Regulation IX: New Source Performance Standards (Rules 901-903) Incorporates by reference federal standards for new sources, and regulations for sources located on the outer continental shelf (e.g. oil platforms)

Regulation X: National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (Rule 1001) Incorporates by reference federal standards for hazardous air pollutants

Regulation XI: Public Notification (Rules 1101-1105) Public notification procedures

Regulation XII: Registration Programs (Rule 1201) Registration of agricultural diesel engines

Regulation XIII: Part 70 Operating Permit Program (Rules 1301-1305) Rules relating to large sources of air pollution that are required to obtain federal permits under the Title V Part 70 program

Of Interest

Airborne Toxic Control Measures

The California Air Resources Board has issued Airborne Toxic Control Measures (ATCMs) to reduce emissions of air toxics — chemicals in the air that can cause cancer or other health problems.

When the state adopts an ATCM, the District must either implement the state's measure, or adopt a rule that is consistent with the state measure. For example, the District implements the state's ATCMs addressing asbestos, perchloroethylene (used in dry cleaning), and toxic metals used in certain metalmelting operations.

The District has issued its own rules consistent with state ATCMs addressing benzene emissions from gasoline, dioxin emissions from medical waste incineration, hexavalent chromium emissions from cooling towers, and more.

Compliance Advisories

The District issues compliance advisories to bring attention to areas where action is needed so a group of businesses can meet air pollution rules.

For example, the District has issued advisories to gasoline stations detailing new state requirements covering their operations, and advisories to building departments to make sure builders are filing notification forms as required by rules covering asbestos removal.

Learn More

Visit www.OurAir.org, call (805) 961-8800, or email rules@sbcapcd.org. Download rules: www.ourair.org/rules-and-regs/.