



MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Advisory Council (CAC) Members

FROM: Aeron Arlin Genet, Air Pollution Control Officer 

SUBJECT: Community Advisory Council Update

DATE: May 9, 2018

Since our last meeting on January 11, 2018, District staff secured APCD Board approval at its March 15, 2018 meeting on two items recently recommended by the CAC:

- Changes to the CAC Bylaws, and
- Revisions to Rule 360 – Emissions of Oxides of Nitrogen from Large Water Heaters and Small Boilers.

Below is a status update on the three items last discussed by the CAC at your January meeting:

CAC By-Laws

The District Board approved revisions to the CAC Bylaws that related to meeting date and frequency. The regularly scheduled CAC meeting day has been changed from the second Wednesday to the fourth Wednesday of the month. The meeting frequency was modified to meet on an as-needed basis. The revisions also included a commitment to provide quarterly written updates during periods when there are no planning or rulemaking matters to discuss. This information has been updated on the District website.

Revisions to District Rule 360

At its March meeting, the District Board held a public hearing and received testimony for the proposed revisions to Rule 360 – Emissions of Oxides of Nitrogen from Large Water Heaters and Small Boilers. This “Point of Sale” rule will lower the NOx emissions for newly installed natural gas units from 55 or 30 ppm to 20 ppm. The revisions were approved along with the related CEQA and General Rule Findings. The new emission standards will become effective in January 2019. District staff will be conducting outreach to impacted parties to make sure they are aware of the new requirements in advance of the rule’s effective date.

Revisions to District Rule 1304

At the January CAC meeting, there was a recommendation for the District Board to consider adoption of Rule 1304 that allows for electronic notification (e-noticing) for permit action on major stationary sources of air pollution. This rule is currently undergoing legal review to ensure the proposed modifications enables the District to fully adhere to all the notification requirements outlined in both State and Federal statute, as well as provide the public adequate opportunity to be informed on District action on these sources. District staff are currently targeting the August 16, 2018 District Board meeting to present on Rule 1304 modifications.

Upcoming Rule Modifications for CAC Review and Discussion

The District's 2016 Ozone Plan includes a commitment to revise Rules 361 and 342 to reduce oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions from boilers, steam generators and process heaters (units rated between 2 and 5 million Btu/hr for Rule 361, and units rated at greater than 5 million Btu/hr for Rule 342). Staff are currently preparing draft revisions to these rules and a public workshop is targeted to be held later this summer. Based on input received at the public workshop, we anticipate the CAC will tentatively discuss and consider revisions to Rules 361 and 342 on August 22, 2018. As we get closer that date, we will contact CAC members to confirm this schedule.

Air Quality Update

In compliance with the Part 58.15 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the District recently certified and submitted the Santa Barbara County 2017 air quality data to the US EPA. Throughout the year, our region experienced one exceedance of the Federal and State ozone standard. Due primarily to the impacts from the Thomas Fire, we experienced 8 violations of the Federal PM10 standard, and 12 violations of the Federal PM 2.5 standard. We also experienced 54 violations of the state PM10 standard throughout 2017.

##

The CAC's charter is to consider issues related to air pollution planning and rulemaking for which the District has jurisdiction, and to render advice to the District Board and the APCO. The CAC serves an important function by providing expertise and representation of community interests during planning and rulemaking. The CAC's advice has helped the District Board adopt plans and rules, which have contributed to improving air quality in our county, and District staff appreciate the care and consideration you show in carrying out your service. These updates will also be posted to our website at www.ourair.org/community-advisory-council-info.