

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
REGULATORY COMPLIANCE DIVISION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policy No. VI.A.2
Supersedes Date _____
Date July 21, 1995

Draft _____
Final X
Pages 3

Topic: Burning on a No-Burn Day

Distribution: All Policy Holders

APCD Rule 401.D.1 stipulates that the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) may authorize, by special permit, agricultural burning on days designated as no-burn days if denial of such authorization would threaten imminent and substantial economic loss to the permittee, as determined and certified by the Agricultural Commissioner of Santa Barbara County. This policy and procedure provides guidance in the implementation of Rule 401.D.1 to APCD personnel and applicants for permits to burn on no-burn days.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT BURNS

Between January 1 and May 31, the APCO may allow, by permit, Range Improvement burning on a no-burn day providing that more than fifty percent of the land has been brush treated by cutting or crushing. Additionally, the APCO may permit, at any time, a Range Improvement Burn on a No-Burn day if denial of such permit would threaten imminent and substantial economic loss as certified by the Agricultural Commissioner.

The following procedure will be used to obtain a permit from the APCD to conduct a Range Improvement burn on a no-burn day:

1. At the time an applicant for a permit to conduct a range improvement burn submits the application to the Santa Barbara County Fire Department, the applicant will also include the Application for a Permit to Burn on a No-Burn Day (see attached form ENF-49).
2. The Santa Barbara County Fire Department will transmit the applications to the Agricultural Commissioner.
3. The Agricultural Commissioner will certify in the space provided that denial of the permit would threaten the applicant with imminent and substantial economic loss.
4. The Agricultural Commissioner will transfer the certified applications to the APCD.
5. The Santa Barbara County Fire Department will request burn day forecasts from the Air Resources Board (ARB) Meteorological section by submitting the information required, in writing, at least 10 days prior to the proposed burn.

6. Pursuant to the provisions of APCD Rule 401.D.1.b, if the 48-hour burn-day forecast is favorable, the burn will be permitted despite a conflicting 24-hour forecast.
7. If the 72-hour forecast advisory indicates a No-Burn Day for the day of the proposed burn, the applicant will contact the APCD Regulatory Compliance Division by telephone at 961-8800 and request the Permit to Burn on a No-Burn Day form. At night, after 5:00 pm, the applicant may leave a message on the APCD's message answering system. When making a request to burn on a No-Burn day, the applicant will be prepared to submit the following information: name of burn; name of applicant; and the proposed date of the burn. The APCD Enforcement Supervisor will contact the Air Monitoring Section Supervisor to verify that the area of the proposed burn is forecasted to meet the State one-hour standard for ozone on the day of the burn.
8. If the area is forecasted to meet the ozone standard, the APCD will attach the Request for Air Quality Forecast form to the Application to Burn on a No-Burn Day form and issue a Permit to Burn on a No-Burn Day.
9. If the area is forecasted to exceed the ozone standard, the APCD will deny the permit.
10. The APCD will contact the Santa Barbara County Fire Department 48 hours prior to the proposed burn and inform the Battalion Chief in charge of Range Improvement burns of the issuance or denial of the Permit to Burn on a No-Burn Day.
11. A copy of the approved Application to Burn on a No-Burn Day will be forwarded to the Santa Barbara County Fire Department.

NON-RANGE IMPROVEMENT AGRICULTURAL BURNS

For agricultural burns other than Range Improvement burns the following procedure will be used by applicants to burn on a No-Burn day:

1. If the holder of a burn permit determines that there may be times when inability to burn on a No-Burn day would result in imminent and substantial economic loss, the holder of the burn permit may submit to the Agricultural Commissioner an application for a Permit to Burn on a No-Burn Day. This should be done at the time the applicant receives the permit from the applicable fire protection agency.
2. The Agricultural Commissioner will certify in the space provided that denial of the permit would threaten the applicant with imminent and substantial economic loss.
3. The Agricultural Commissioner will transfer the certified application to the APCD.

4. The APCD will maintain a file for certified applications for Permits to Burn on a No-Burn Day.
5. On the day declared as a No-Burn Day on which the applicant wishes to burn, the applicant will contact the applicable APCD Regulatory Compliance office by phone and request a Permit to Burn on a No-Burn Day form. For burns in the south county, call 961-8800; for burns in the north county, call 686-5012.
6. A Permit to Burn on a No-Burn Day will be issued to the applicant if the following conditions are met:
 - A. The applicant has a current certified application for Permit to Burn on a No-Burn Day on file with the APCD,
 - B. The location of the burn does not present a potential for public nuisance, and
 - C. It is the third No-Burn Day in a row, or U.S. Weather Service predicts rain for the day after the day of the proposed burn.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY RANGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

PROCEDURE TO REQUEST A PERMIT TO BURN ON A NO-BURN DAY

1. 72 hours prior to the proposed burn, call the Santa Barbara County Fire Department Battalion Chief in charge of Range Improvement burning to obtain the 72-hour burn-day forecast.
2. If the forecast is unfavorable, call the Air Pollution Control District at 961-8800, ask for the Enforcement Supervisor and request a permit to burn on a no-burn day. Calls received by the message service after work hours and on weekends will be reviewed the next regular work day. When calling, be prepared to give the following information:
 - A. Name of burn
 - B. Your name
 - C. Date you want to burn
3. 48 hours prior to the proposed burn, call the Santa Barbara County Fire Department Battalion Chief in charge of Range Improvement burning to find out if the permit to burn on a No-Burn Day has been approved.
4. If the Range Improvement Burn is canceled, the process starts over at Step 1.



Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District

Our Vision: Clean Air

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO BURN ON NO-BURN DAY

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: Day: _____ Night: _____

BURN LOCATION

Range: _____

Township: _____

Section: _____

COSTS OF BURN

Preparation Costs: _____

Burn Day Costs: _____

Insurance Costs: _____

Burn Permit Number: _____

Station Number: _____

Proposed Date of Burn: ____ / ____ / ____

Number of Days of Burn: _____

TYPE OF BURN

Range Improvement: ____ Agricultural Wastes: ____ (_____)
please specify materials

Forest Management: ____ Wildland Vegetation Management: ____ Russian Thistle: ____

Disease and Pest Prevention: ____ Wildlife and Game Habitat Improvement: ____

Amount to be Burned Acres: _____ Tons: _____

I hereby claim that denial of permission to conduct the above referenced burn on a certain day, regardless of burn-day designation, will result in imminent and substantial economic loss.

Signature of Applicant

The Agricultural Commissioner of the County of Santa Barbara does hereby certify that denial of a Permit to Burn on a No-Burn Day for the proposed burn described on this application will threaten the applicant with imminent and substantial economic loss.

Signature of Certifying Authority

Name and Title of (PLEASE PRINT) Certifying Authority

