Enclosed please find proposed amended Rules 102, Definitions, and 202, Exemptions to Rule 201, for your review.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has adopted a regulation to reduce fluorinated gas and fluorinated heat transfer fluid emissions from semiconductor operations pursuant to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32). The regulation establishes emission standards for this group of greenhouse gases that are achieved by using process optimization, alternative chemistries, and/or abatement to reduce emissions from chemical vapor deposition (CVD) chamber cleaning and etching processes.

The regulation affects any owner or operator of a semiconductor or related devices operation that uses and/or emits fluorinated gases or fluorinated heat transfer fluids. This includes, but is not limited to, the processing of diodes, zeners, stacks, rectifiers, integrated microcircuits, transistors, solar cells, light-sensing devices, and light-emitting devices. A requirement of the regulation takes effect on March 1, 2011.

In order to enforce this new regulation the District is proposing to amend Rule 202 to remove the stationary sources permit exemption for semiconductor or related device operations, which use and/or emit fluorinated gases or fluorinated heat transfer fluids. Likewise, the stationary source exemption for landfills has been removed from Rule 202.D.7, as AB 32 regulations are in effect for such landfills and APCD permit requirements apply.

Rule 102 (Definitions) will also be amended to include the addition of a definition for “Fluorinated Gases.”

For more information regarding this rule revision and the state’s Final Regulation Order please see the APCD website (www.sbcapcd.org) and the CARB website: (http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/2009/semi2009/semifro.pdf).

We plan to discuss the proposed revisions to these rules and to request that the CAC formulate a Board recommendation on it during the February 9 meeting. We anticipate bringing this proposed amended rule to the Board in March of 2011.