NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT REGULATION 8, ORGANIC COMPOUNDS, RULE 10: PROCESS VESSEL DEPRESSURIZATION, and RULE 18, EQUIPMENT LEAKS; and ADOPTION OF CEQA NEGATIVE DECLARATIONS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District will conduct public hearings on January 21, 2004, at the District Headquarters' Board Room, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, California, at 9:45 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matters may be heard, to consider adoption of proposed amendments to each of the above rules, and adoption of a Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for each.

Both Regulation 8 rules apply to Bay Area refineries and chemical plants, and Rule 18 also applies to bulk plants and terminals. Proposed amendments to Rule 10 would broaden rule applicability, establish organic compound concentration and mass emission limits for opening process vessels to the atmosphere, and impose additional monitoring and recordkeeping requirements. Proposed amendments to Rule 18 would reduce the number and magnitude of leaks for which repairs can be deferred under existing rule provisions.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.), an initial study for each set of rule amendments has been conducted, concluding that the proposed amendments would not have significant adverse environmental impacts. Notice is hereby given that the District intends to adopt a negative declaration for each set of amendments pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21080(c) and CEQA Guidelines section 15070 et seq.

This notice, and, for each rule, the proposed amendments, the initial study and negative declaration, and a draft staff report are available on the District's website at www.baaqmd.gov. Copies of these documents are also available for review at the address below or by calling the District's public information office at (415) 749-4900. If you have any questions regarding the proposed amendments to Rule 10, please contact Alex Ezersky at (415) 749-4650 or by e-mail to aezersky@baaqmd.gov. For questions regarding the proposed amendments to Rule 18, please contact Victor Douglas at (415) 749-4752 or by e-mail to vdouglas@baaqmd.gov.

Written comments on the proposed amendments or negative declaration must be addressed to Bill Guy, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, California, 94109, or to wguy@baaqmd.gov. Comments will be received for each project during the period from Monday, December 22, 2003 until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 12, 2004.

Jack P. Broadbent Executive Officer Bay Area Air Quality Management District