

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

November 15, 1999

PROJECT SPONSOR

Bay Area Air Quality Management District

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project consists of amendments to BAAQMD Regulation 8, Rule 5, which regulates the storage of organic liquids in order to reduce emissions of ozone precursors. Most of the tanks in which organic liquids are stored are located in Bay Area refineries. The amendments to Regulation 8, Rule 5 are part of the Final 1999 San Francisco Bay Area Ozone Attainment Plan (OAP) adopted June 1999 and are being proposed in order to reduce emissions to the atmosphere of organic compounds that form ground-level ozone. The proposed amendments include:

- Effective June 1, 2000, slotted guidepoles on organic liquid storage tanks must be equipped with gaskets, wipers and pole sleeves to minimize evaporative emissions.
- Operators seeking an exemption from the rule to take tanks out of service for preventative maintenance will be required to provide written certification of tank compliance and to minimize emissions during the exemption period.
- The minimum required extension above the liquid surface for metallic shoe type seals in internal floating roof tanks will be changed.
- Definitions will be added for gauge floats, guidepoles, and zero gap pole wiper seals.

PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed amendments apply within the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. This area includes all of seven counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Napa), and portions of two others (southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma).

DETERMINATION

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000, *et seq.*), the District is the Lead Agency for the described project. The District has prepared an initial study (attached), and, on the basis of the study, has determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

REVIEW PERIOD

Written comments on the proposed negative declaration must be addressed to Ellen Garvey, Air Pollution Control Officer, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, 94109. All comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 3, 1999.

If you have questions about the project or the negative declaration, please contact Bob Nishimura at (415) 749-4769.