



**Notice of Public Workshop**

**PROPOSED AMENDED REGULATION (PAR) III – FEES**



**March 31, 2009**  
**1:00 p.m., Auditorium**  
AQMD Headquarters  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

**Purpose of the Meeting**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) has scheduled a public workshop to solicit information and suggestions from the public on **Proposed Amended Regulation III – Fees (PAR III)**. PAR III will be considered for adoption by the AQMD Governing Board at a public hearing tentatively scheduled for *Friday, June 5, 2009*.

**Air Quality Objective**

Regulation III does not specifically limit the emissions of air contaminants. Regulation III does, however, establish procedures for assessing and collecting fees and the fee rates for emissions and permitting activities and helps fund AQMD's budget.

**Background on Regulation III – Fees**

Regulation III fees fund approximately two-thirds of AQMD's annual budget. The other third comes from mobile source funds, subvention funds from the state, federal grants, and other miscellaneous sources such as subscription services.

**Proposed Amendments**

Staff is proposing a limited number of amendments to Regulation III to better align program revenues with program costs. Other proposed amendments clarify rule provisions and have minor fee adjustments. Staff is also proposing administrative

amendments that have no revenue impact. Staff is not proposing a CPI increase for this fiscal year. Examples of the specific proposals considered for FY 2009-10 include:

1. Clarifying that equipment subject to Rule 1415 – Reduction of Refrigerant Emissions From Stationary Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Systems is exempt from the initial payment for plan evaluation fees;
2. A fifty percent surcharge, to recover the cost of emergency Procedure 4 and 5 Plan Evaluation which are responded to by staff on any unscheduled emergency basis;
3. Increasing the initial Rule 2202 Employee Commute Reduction Program new Employee Transportation Coordinator training program fee to better recover training program costs;
4. Assessing a fee for filing and review of Smoke Management Plans, Burn Management Plans, Emergency Burn Plans and Post Burn Evaluation Reports which are mandatory pursuant to the provisions of Rule 444 as amended on November 7, 2008;
5. Reclassifying Plasma Arc Cutting from the current higher fee Schedule C to the lower B1 fee schedule;

6. New equipment categories for boilers fired on: Landfill/Digester Gas < 5 MMBTU/hr as Schedule B, 5-20 MMBTU/hr as Schedule C, > 20-50 MMBTU/hr as Schedule D and > 50 MMBTU/hr as Schedule F to replace the current two categories for this type of equipment;
7. Classifying gas fired micro-turbines as Schedule A equipment;
8. Increasing the additional-day fee for Appeal petitions to the same fee as that for Group Variance petitions; and
9. Other corrections and clarifications with minimal or no fiscal impact.

### **California Environmental Quality Act**

AQMD staff has reviewed the proposed amendments to Regulation III – Fees, and determined them to be statutorily exempt from CEQA requirements pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines §15273 – Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges. Upon adoption of the proposed amendments, a Notice of Exemption will be prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15062 and filed with the county clerks in each county within the SCAQMD’s jurisdiction. Questions regarding the Notice of Exemption should be directed to:

Jeffrey Inabinet  
South Coast AQMD  
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
(909) 396-2453  
e-mail: [jinabinet@aqmd.gov](mailto:jinabinet@aqmd.gov)

### **Available Supporting Documents and Other Relevant Information**

Copies of PAR III and supporting documents will be available prior to the workshop, on the web at <http://www.aqmd.gov/rules/proposed.html> and may also be obtained from:

Mr. William Sanchez  
Public Information Center  
South Coast AQMD  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
(909) 396-2039  
e-mail: [picrequests@aqmd.gov](mailto:picrequests@aqmd.gov)

### **Submission of Documents or Comments**

Comments and suggestions regarding PAR III – Fees can be directed, by **April 7, 2009**, to:

Henry Pourzand  
South Coast AQMD  
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
(909) 396-2414  
e-mail: [hpourzand@aqmd.gov](mailto:hpourzand@aqmd.gov)