



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182  
(909) 396-2000 • [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)

## **Clean Air Choices Cleaner Certification Protocol**

May 2008

### I. OVERVIEW

This protocol contains information on how an applicant may obtain a Clean Air Choices Cleaner Certificate. Primarily, the Clean Air Choices Cleaner is considered an ultra low-VOC, ultra low-toxicity product used at commercial and institutional facilities. Other types of products (e.g., household cleaners, automobile soaps, hand soaps, graffiti remover, etc.) will be considered as appropriate. To be eligible, a product must be submitted to the AQMD laboratory to verify that no prohibited ingredients in quantities of 0.1 percent or greater by weight are present or have been previously certified by an approved third party certification organization such as Green Seal (<http://www.green seal.org>), U.S. EPA Design for the Environment (<http://www.epa.gov/dfe/pubs/projects/formulat/index.htm>) or EcoLogo (<http://www.environmentalchoice.com/English/Home/>). Super compliant means that the product has a Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) content of 10 g/l or less as verified by AQMD's laboratory or an AQMD certified independent laboratory, using Test Method 313-06. This does not include exempting compounds with low vapor pressure, as included in the CARB Consumer Products Regulation.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) will notify applicants of the finding of laboratory analysis within 90 days of the receipt of all requested information. A certificate will be issued within 30 days of such notification if the product is approved as a Clean Air Choices Cleaner by the AQMD.

#### Information Required

Name of the product (including chemical name, if any);  
Applicable product category or intended use;  
Name, address, telephone, fax number and e-mail address of the applicant (and contact person, if different);  
Formulation data sheet for the product, if available (will be treated as confidential if requested);  
Material data sheet for the product;

Sealed, unopened 1 quart sample of product;  
Complete user instructions on how the product is intended to be used, including dilution and/or mixing ratios and any other relevant information;  
(Optional) Copy of official letter and/or certificate awarded by an approved third party certification organization

#### Fee Required

At the time of filing for a Clean Air Choices Cleaner Certificate, the applicant must submit with the sample product a fee for each product to be tested. This fee includes the GC/MS analysis for 5 or fewer compounds, one (1) hour time and material, and the certificate.

These fees are taken from AQMD Rule 304.1 and will be based on the current version of the rule at the time of submittal.

#### Submittal Address

Clean Air Choices  
Cleaner Certification  
Attn: Mike Morris  
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources  
South Coast Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182

## II. LABORATORY ANALYSIS

The VOC content of the product will be determined by testing the unopened submitted product sample. Analysis will be performed by the AQMD Laboratory using the most recent version of SCAQMD Method 313-06, Determination of Volatile Compounds (VOC) by Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS). A product must have a VOC content of 10 g/l or less to be eligible. In addition, parties that opt to submit products for full laboratory testing must have the AQMD Laboratory perform GC/MS analysis for the presence, in quantities of 0.1 percent by weight or greater, of the following prohibited compounds:

- Toxic Air Contaminants (TAC) as listed in AB 1807 Toxic Air Contaminant Program  
(<http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/catable.htm>)
- Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAP) as listed in Section 112 (b) of the Federal Clean Air Act  
(<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/orig189.html>)
- Ozone Depleting Compounds (ODC) as listed in 40 CFR Part 82  
(<http://www.epa.gov/ozone/ods.html>)

- Global Warming Compounds (GWC) including CF<sub>4</sub> (Perfluoromethane), HFCs (hydrofluorocarbons), HFEs (hydrofluoroethers), PFCs (perfluorocarbons), SF<sub>6</sub> (sulfur hexafluoride) and N<sub>2</sub>O (nitrous oxide)  
(<http://www.epa.gov/ozone/geninfo/gwps.html>)
- Heavy Metals including arsenic, lead, cadmium, cobalt, copper, chromium, mercury, nickel and zinc
- Great Waters Pollutants of Concern as listed in U.S. EPA's *Deposition of Air Pollutants to the Great Waters*  
([http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3/reports/head\\_2kf.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3/reports/head_2kf.pdf))
- Carcinogens as listed by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), National Toxicology Program, U.S. EPA or the Occupational Health and Safety Administration  
(<http://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/GHD100203.html>)
- Carcinogens or Reproductive Toxins as listed in the State of California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65) ([http://www.oehha.org/prop65/prop65\\_list/Newlist.html](http://www.oehha.org/prop65/prop65_list/Newlist.html))
- Alkylphenol ethoxylates;
- Dibutyl phthalates;

In lieu of AQMD testing for the above pollutant concerns, manufacturers can submit approved third party certifications as noted under Section I above.

If the above procedures are successfully completed, a Clean Air Choices Cleaner Certificate will be awarded.

### III. COMPLIANCE AND FIELD AUDITS

A Clean Air Choices Cleaner Certificate shall be valid for three years from the date of issuance and may be renewed upon recertification. The recertification fee shall be according to the fees specified in the most current Rule 304.1 fees. Any person utilizing a Clean Air Choices Cleaner shall comply with the conditions of use stated on the certificate. If a Clean Air Choices Cleaner is reformulated, the Clean Air Choices Cleaner Certificate will be considered invalid and the new product must be reevaluated to obtain a new certificate.

The Executive Officer may conduct field audits to determine continuous compliance by sampling an unopened concentrated product in the field. If the results of the laboratory analysis show that the product no longer meets certification criteria, the Executive Officer may revoke the Clean Air Choices Cleaner Certificate.