



Environmental Auditing: Air Quality Management in Santa Barbara

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new & noteworthy

- **Air Quality – Sulfur Hexafluoride and GHG Emissions:** On January 14, 2022, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted a final rule (California Notice Register 2021, No. 2-Z) that modifies the regulation aimed at reducing sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆) emissions from gas insulated equipment (GIE) used in electric power systems. The rule has been expanded to include GHGs and to clarify that it applies to not only switchgear but other devices. The rule also updates maximum annual SF₆ emission rates for owners of GIE equipment; implements a revised phase-out schedule for SF₆ and a corresponding phase-out exemption process; updates annual emission limits and methods for calculating emissions; amends reporting, recordkeeping, and inventory requirements; and adopts a nameplate capacity adjustment procedure. This rule was effective January 1, 2022.

This change impacts **Air Quality Management in SBCAPCD (Introduction and Rulebook D, State-wide Rules)**.

- **Air Quality – Prohibitions on Certain Hydrofluorocarbons:** On January 7, 2022, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted a final rule (California Notice Register 2021, No. 1-Z) that modifies the state regulation that establishes prohibitions on certain hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). This action imposes new limits on HFCs used in non-residential stationary refrigeration equipment and new air-conditioning equipment used for residential and non-residential purposes. This rule was effective January 1, 2022.

This change impacts **Air Quality Management in SBCAPCD (Introduction and Rulebook D, State-wide Rules)**.

- **Air Quality – Hazardous Air Pollutants:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a final rule (87 FR 393) on January 5, 2022, that amended the initial list of hazardous air pollutants (HAP) under Clean Air Act (CAA) to include 1-bromopropane (1-BP; CASRN 106-94-5). This substance was added in response to public petitions previously granted by the EPA. This final rule was effective on February 4, 2022.

These changes impact the **Air Quality Management in SBCAPCD, Introduction**, (Reference Table 1).

highlights of this release

- **Air Quality Management in SBCAPCD** has been updated as follows:
 - **Introduction** (General Applicability Checklist), was revised to reflect changes to state-wide rules on HFC prohibitions and emissions of GHGs from gas-insulated equipment.
 - **Introduction** (Regulatory Summary and Acronyms) were updated due to regulatory changes to state-wide rules on HFC prohibitions and emissions of GHGs from gas-insulated equipment
 - **Introduction** (Reference Table 1) was amended to include 1-bromopropane.
 - **Rulebook D, State-wide Rules**, was revised to incorporate regulatory changes to rules on HFC prohibitions and emissions of GHGs from gas-insulated equipment.

did you know?

- **Santa Barbara Air Pollution Control District (SBAPCD) BACT Clearinghouse:** The SBAPCD has established a clearinghouse that contains Best Available Control Technology (BACT) Guidelines issued by the district, including guidelines for various oil and gas activities, engines, boilers, and specific types of facilities such as concrete batch plants. The clearinghouse also provides links to other local, state, and federal BACT clearinghouses, including those established by the U.S. EPA, CARB, BAAQMD, SCAQMD, San Joaquin Valley APCD and Sacramento Metro AQMD.



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