



Environmental Auditing: Air Quality Management in San Diego

RELEASE 155 – FEBRUARY 2022

new & noteworthy

- **Air Quality – Heavy-Duty Omnibus Low NOx Regulation:** On December 31, 2021, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted the Heavy-Duty Omnibus Low NOx Regulation (California Notice Register 2021 No. 53-Z). This final rule implements two measures previously included within CARB’s Revised Proposed 2016 State Strategy for the State Implementation Plan, “Low-NOx Engine Standard” which aims to significantly reduce NOx emissions from new engines during certification, and a “Lower In-Use Emission Performance Level,” which aims to ensure in-use heavy-duty vehicles continue to control emissions throughout their useful lives. The rule amendments also modify a number of existing on-road heavy-duty vehicle program elements.

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

- **Air Quality – Emissions Reporting for Criteria Air Pollutants and Toxic Air Contaminants:** On November 12, 2021, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted a final rule (California Notice Register 2021 No. 46-Z) that expands the statewide system of annual reporting of emissions, criteria pollutants, and toxic air contaminants from about 1300 reporters to over 60,000, by amending the reporting requirements to use permitted emissions and pollutant-based thresholds to establish applicability. In addition to including a multi-year phase-in schedule, there is also an “abbreviated” reporting requirement for some permitted processes. This action also requires reporting for diesel-powered portable equipment and coordinates criteria and toxic air contaminant reporting requirements with the Air Toxics Hot Spots Emissions Inventory Criteria and Guidelines.

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

- **San Diego County Air Pollution Control District – Stationary Gas Turbine Engines:** On December 9, 2021, the San Diego Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD) amended Rule 69.3.1, which establishes Best Available Retrofit Control Technology (BARCT) for stationary gas turbine engines. The amendments revise the applicability to all gas turbine engines (both existing and new) with a power rating of 0.3 MW or greater. The rule also revises the definition of “extended startup,” adds a definition for “testing or maintenance,” adds NOx emission standards that apply to extended startups of 42 parts per million volume (ppmv) for gaseous fuel and 65 ppmv for liquid fuel, and removes requirements specific to peaking units installed before 1998, all of which have since been retired.

release notes

please review

These changes affect **Air Quality Management in SDAPCD, Rulebook C, Emissions Standards and Miscellaneous Requirements.**

- **San Diego County Air Pollution Control District – Repeal of Stationary Gas Turbine Engine Rule:** On December 9, 2021, the San Diego Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD) repealed Rule 69.3 (Stationary Gas Turbine Engines-Best Available Retrofit Control Technology), which had reflected federal requirements for Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) to reduce NOx emissions from stationary gas turbine engines with a power rating of 0.3 megawatt (MW) or greater. This action was taken concurrently with amendments to Rule 69.3.1, Stationary Gas Turbine Engines-Best Available Retrofit Control Technology, which replaces Rule 69.3. Revised Rule 69.3.1 contains more health-protective State requirements for Best Available Retrofit Control Technology (BARCT) for stationary gas turbine engines.

These changes affect **Air Quality Management in SDAPCD, Rulebook C, Emissions Standards and Miscellaneous Requirements.**

- **San Diego County Air Pollution Control District – Emission Information Reporting:** On December 9, 2021, SDAPCD amended Rule 19.3, Emission Information, to comply with recent changes in State emission reporting regulations, specifically the California Air Resources Board “Regulation for the Reporting of Criteria Air Pollutants and Toxic Air Contaminants” (also known as Criteria Toxics Reporting or CTR), which implements statewide annual reporting of criteria air pollutant and toxic air contaminant emissions data from facilities. The amendments to Rule 19.3 align the rule with federal and State reporting programs, phase in requirements for electronic submittal of annual emission inventory reporting and include other minor edits for clarification.

These changes affect **Air Quality Management in SDAPCD, Rulebook A, General Requirements.**

- **San Diego County Air Pollution Control District – Toxic Air Contaminant Health Risks - Public Notification and Risk Reduction:** On November 4, 2021, SDAPCD amended Rule 1210, Toxic Air Contaminant Health Risks - Public Notification and Risk Reduction, which establishes public notification and risk reduction thresholds and procedures for implementing the Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program in San Diego County. The amendments lower the cancer risk reduction threshold from 100-in-1-million to 10-in-1-million, enhance public notification and risk reduction protocols, establish public meeting requirements, and revise requirements under the existing extension for facilities unable to reduce cancer risk within 5 years.

These changes affect **Air Quality Management in SDAPCD, Rulebook A, General Requirements.**

highlights of this release

- **Air Quality Management in SDAPCD, Introduction** (Applicability Table), was revised to reflect changes affecting the applicability of requirements for heavy-duty vehicles and for state-wide emissions reporting.

release notes

please review

- **Air Quality Management in SDAPCD, Rulebook A, General Requirements**, was updated to incorporate changes to emissions information reporting and to the requirements for public notification and risk reduction for toxic air contaminants.
- **Air Quality Management in SDAPCD Rulebook C, Emissions Standards and Miscellaneous Requirements**, was updated to reflect changes to the requirements applicable to stationary gas turbine engines.
- **Air Quality Management in SDAPCD, Part D, State-wide Rules**, was revised to incorporate regulatory changes to requirements for heavy-duty vehicles and for state-wide emissions reporting.

did you know?

- **Santa Diego County Emissions Inventory Reporting:** There are two Emissions Inventory programs applicable to facilities in San Diego County: the Criteria Pollutant Emissions Inventory (required by district Rule 19.3, which was recently updated) and the Toxic Emissions Inventory (required by California Health & Safety Code Sections 44300 - 44400 and CARB's Criteria and Emissions Inventory Guideline Regulations). The Criteria Pollutant Emissions Inventory requires emissions of carbon monoxide (CO), lead (Pb), oxides of nitrogen (NO_x), particulate matter (PM), oxides of sulfur (SO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOC's) to be quantified. The Toxics Emissions Inventory or "Hot Spots" Program requires several listed toxic air contaminants to be quantified. SDAPCF has a new web-based program called EIS (Emissions Inventory System) that allows facilities to provide required inventory information and see their resulting inventory online. Facilities that wish to utilize EIS may contact SDAPCD's Emissions Inventory Section to set up an account.



industry insight

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