

Air Quality Update

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HEALTH RISK: NEW METHODOLOGY AND POLICY CHANGES AHEAD

California has adopted a new Health Risk Assessment (HRA) methodology that will have broad-reaching consequences for a wide range of regulatory agencies, as well as the regulated community. The methodology is detailed in the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) Guidance Manual, adopted by California's Scientific Review Panel on Toxic Air Contaminants (SRP) at their public meeting on November 12, 2014. The Guidance Manual culminates the science presented in three preceding technical support documents (TSDs) released by OEHHA for the Hot Spots Program since 2008 and reflects advances in the field of risk assessment, along with explicit consideration of infants and children. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) intends to release the finalized Guidance Manual, along with a fully updated companion version of the Hotspots Analysis and Reporting Program (HARP) software, in the first quarter of 2015.

The new method continues to use a tiered approach, which provides flexibility to risk assessors as well as regulatory agencies to implement the new method, but incorporates a more substantive consideration of sensitivities based on site-specific information and age-related exposures. The result is a methodology that generally increases the overall estimates for cancer risk by approximately 200-300% or a factor of 2 to 3 times. So, if previous risk was estimated to be 4 in a million, it could rise up to 12 in a million with the same

emissions. Although developed for the Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Program (AB 2588), the Guidance Manual will have a broader influence, as it affects other regulatory programs that use health risk assessment for policy and regulatory determinations, such as air permitting, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and Proposition 65.

Risk management policy, set by various state and local agencies, will direct implementation of the new Guidance Manual and define the appropriate use of the HRA methods. In the absence of a moderating policy, the regulated community, lead agencies, and the regulators could experience a large increase of new public notifications, risk reduction requirements, significant public health impacts under CEQA, and equipment across the state that may be difficult to permit.

CARB and other organizations, such as the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), are reviewing statewide risk management policies and may propose changes to implementation of risk management statewide. In addition, local agencies are reviewing their policies and may proceed with modifications to those policies. These actions should afford an opportunity for the public to participate in directing implementation of the new Guidance Manual.

However the risk management policies may change, everyone involved with environmental management should have a heightened sensitivity to the air toxics data they submit to agencies for individual devices, facility-wide inventories, and planned development projects, because these emissions may be among the first to

be evaluated for health risk impacts using the new methodology.

Air Quality Tip

The best time to get involved with a San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) rule that may affect your operations is when the District begins developing the rule. It can often be more difficult to make changes later, such as when the draft rule is introduced at a Workshop, because by then, the rule developer and the District are usually more invested in the developed rule and less receptive to changes. Involvement at the beginning of rule development provides a better chance of having your input considered. You can sign up for notifications by visiting the URL below; select the Permitting Regulations option and submit your e-mail address for subscription: <http://www.vallevair.org/lists/list.htm>

Upcoming Training Offered by Yorke Engineering

- San Joaquin Valley Air Quality Regulations, Permitting, and Compliance Seminar: March 24 – March 25, 2015
<http://www.yorkeengr.com/AirQualityClasses.htm>

Upcoming Due Dates for 2015

- USEPA GHG Report.....3/31
- CARB GHG >25K Metric Tons4/10
- CARB GHG 10-25K Metric Tons and All Electric Retailers 6/1
- CARB GHG SF6 Switchgear 6/1
- CARB On-Road Heavy-Duty DV* Reporting for Flexibility Options1/31
- CARB In-Use Off-Road DV* Annual Reporting for Large Fleets 3/1
- CARB PERP Equipment Units Annual Report 3/1
- Semi-Annual Title V Report Semi-Annually
- Annual Title V Compliance Certification Annually
- Title V – Application for Permit Renewal – Due 180 Days Prior to Permit Expiration

*Diesel Vehicle

RULE 2250 PERMIT-EXEMPT EQUIPMENT REGISTRATION

The SJVAPCD adopted Rule 2250 – Permit-Exempt Equipment Registration (PEER) in October 2006 to ensure compliance with applicable rules and regulations for emission units that are exempt from the SJVAPCD’s permitting requirements, but must still meet standards contained in applicable rules and regulations. Frequently, equipment operators are unaware that a PEER is required for certain portable and stationary units that are operated at a facility. The following are some of the emission units that are required to be registered under PEER.

Permit-Exempt Internal Combustion (IC) Engines Greater Than 50 BHP Used at Smaller Agricultural Operations

Pursuant to Rule 2020, agricultural operations with emissions less than one-half the major source thresholds [for example, less than 5 tons of oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) or volatile organic compounds (VOCs) per year] are exempt from SJVAPCD permitting. However, these IC engines are subject to Rule 4702 and will need to obtain a PEER. Rule 4702 provides specific requirements for Agricultural Operation (AO) engines, which includes emissions standards, monitoring, and recordkeeping, among other requirements. IC engines in agricultural service that become subject to SJVAPCD permitting are given 6 months to apply for a permit.

Permit-Exempt Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters That Are Subject to the Requirements of Rule 4307

Rule 4307 – Small Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters (2-5 MMBtu/hr only) requires the subject units to meet certain emissions standards, perform tuning, as applicable, and perform

required monitoring and recordkeeping. The following are the types of units that fall into this category:

- Natural gas and/or liquefied petroleum gas-fired boilers, steam generators, and process heaters rated between 2-5 MMBtu/hr at non-agricultural operations; and
- Boilers, steam generators, and process heaters rated between 2-5 MMBtu/hr, with any fuel type, at an agricultural operation with actual emissions less than one-half the major source thresholds (for example, less than 5 tons of NO_x or VOCs per year).

Mobile Fuelers That Are Subject to Rule 4622 – Gasoline Transfer into Motor Vehicle Fuel Tanks

A mobile fueler is defined as any gasoline delivery vessel with an attached container that is used to transport and dispense gasoline from an onboard storage container into any motor vehicle fuel tank. Mobile fuelers used solely for refueling aircraft are specifically exempted from PEER.

In addition to registering the above listed units under PEER, as applicable, an owner and/or operator of PEER units is subject to a PEER application fee, typically \$85 per application, and an annual PEER fee, typically \$57 per PEER unit.

SJVAPCD PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

For full details on proposed rule changes below, go to:

http://www.valleyair.org/Workshops/public_workshops_idx.htm

Rule 2020: Exemptions

Rule 2020 is the SJVAPCD’s permit exemptions rule. The purpose of this rule is to specify emission units that are not required to obtain an Authority to Construct or Permit to Operate in the SJVAPCD’s jurisdiction. Rule 2020 also specifies the recordkeeping requirements to verify the exemption and outlines the compliance schedule for emission units that lose the exemption after installation. The proposed amendments will align Rule 2020, the SJVAPCD’s exemption rule, with the statewide Portable Equipment Registration Program (PERP) by allowing certain PERP registered portable engines to be used at stationary sources during unforeseen interruptions of electrical power from the serving utility, maintenance or repair, and short-term electrical upgrade operations, without the need to obtain a local permit.

The proposed amendments also clarify the permit exemptions for engines under 50 HP, in light of the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs) and New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) requirements for engines under 50 HP, and provide permit exemption for current heavy oil tanks at small producers that have a throughput of 50 barrels per day or less, which are exempt from Rule 4623 control requirements. In addition, the proposed amendments will allow for flexibility in using alternative source test methods with written approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the SJVAPCD.

Yorke Engineering, LLC specializes in air quality and environmental consulting for stationary and mobile sources, including dispersion modeling, health risk assessments, permitting, emission inventories, air quality compliance systems, etc. Yorke Engineering has assisted over 400 customers, including a wide variety of industrial facilities and government organizations throughout California.