Air Quality Update

Brought to you by YORKE ENGINEERING, LLC www.YorkeEngr.com

August 28, 2026 – SCAQMD

ACF REGULATION UPDATE

Following the 2025 amendments to California's Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) Regulation, applicability is now limited to State and Local Government Agency (SLGA) fleets, after the California Air Resources Board (CARB) repealed provisions affecting private and federal fleets. Although private fleets are no longer directly subject to ACF compliance requirements, CARB has indicated that obligations may still arise when private fleets are contracted by or leased to State and local governments due to CARB's proposed interpretation of "hiring compliant fleets." CARB has received numerous comments regarding this interpretation, since it would effectively require private fleets performing public contract work to comply with ACF-related vehicle turnover requirements. Nevertheless, ACF applicability is limited to SLGA fleets.

For SLGA fleets, the core framework remains unchanged. Agencies that own, lease, or operate medium- and heavy-duty vehicles must continue transitioning to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) through established compliance pathways. In April 2026, CARB delayed several key milestones, including extending the 50% ZEV purchase requirement and moving the 100% ZEV purchase target to 2030. CARB also provided additional flexibility for waste and wastewater fleets using the ZEV Milestone Option for compliance. No new Board hearings have been scheduled for these revisions, and CARB has not yet finalized whether the changes are "substantial" enough to require readoption.

CARB GHG CAP-AND-INVEST

CARB approved amendments to the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Mandatory Reporting Regulation (MRR) and Cap-and-Invest Regulation on May 29, 2026. The regulations apply to large combustion facilities; fuel, natural gas, and carbon dioxide (CO_2) suppliers; and electricity importers. New entities under the amended regulations include cement importers and hydrogen producers and importers. The applicability threshold for the MRR is 10,000 metric tons of CO_2 equivalent ($MTCO_2e$) emitted, while the threshold for Cap-and-Invest is 25,000 $MTCO_2e$ of covered emissions. The amendments primarily affect the implementation of the Cap-and-Invest Program and include lower statewide allowance budgets, changes to compliance periods, increased industry allowances with updated cap factors, allowances for electricity purchases, and decarbonization incentives. These changes will significantly affect compliance planning and programs that rely on proceeds from CARB allowance auctions.

SB 253, CLIMATE CORPORATE DATA ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Senate Bill (SB) 253 requires companies with annual revenues exceeding $1 billion that do business in California to publicly disclose their GHG emissions. CARB's first SB 253 regulation is anticipated to be approved in Fall 2026 with a focus on applicability criteria, initial reporting requirements, and fee collection requirements. Based on recent guidance posted by CARB, Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions reporting is anticipated to be due November 10, 2026.

CARB will amend this regulation to incorporate future requirements under SB 253, including Scope 3 reporting and assurance verification, both required next year.

Air Quality Tip

Reminder: Pursuant to Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 40 Part 84.108, owners and operators of existing refrigeration systems with a full charge of 1,500 pounds or more and a refrigerant global warming potential (GWP) greater than 53 must install automatic leak detection systems by January 1, 2027.

Upcoming Online EH&S Training Offered by Yorke Engineering

- Southern California Air Quality Regulations, Permitting, and Compliance Seminar (3-Hour Sessions):
  November 3, 5, 10, 11, and 12, 2026
- California Industrial Hygiene and OSHA Safety Regulations Seminar (4-Hour Sessions):
  October 20, 21, 27, and 28, 2026
  Class Info at: https://yorkeengr.com/classes

Upcoming Due Dates for 2026/2027*

- RECLAIM APEP (Cycle 2)........... 8/29/26
- SCAQMD 218.2 CEMS Report... 8/29/26
- CARB LCFS Verification Statement ..8/31/26
- Title V – 500-SAM........................ 8/31/26
- CARB LCFS Q2 Fuel Report 9/30/26
- SCAQMD 1110.2 Quarterly 10/15/26
- RECLAIM Quarterly (Cyc. 1 & 2) ..10/30/26
- CARB GHG Cap-and-Trade Annual Compliance Surrender....... 11/1/26
- CARB SB 253 Scope 1 & 2 Report...11/10/26
- CARB LCFS Q3 Fuel Report 12/31/26
- CARB Off-Road Diesel Compliance by Fleet Average or BACT (All Fleets).. 1/1/27
- SCAQMD 1110.2 Quarterly 1/15/27
- RECLAIM Quarterly (Cycle 2) 1/30/27
- SCAQMD 218 CEMS Report........ 1/30/27
- CARB On-Road TRUCRS Reporting for Flexibility Options... 1/31/27
- SCAQMD Annual WAIRE Report...1/31/27
- Title V – 500-SAM........................ 2/28/27
- Title V – Application for Permit Renewal – Due 180 Days Prior to Permit Expiration

**Due dates listed are statutory dates; sometimes dates are extended when on a weekend/holiday.*

SCAQMD ADOPTED RULE CHANGES

For full details on changes below, go to: https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/recent-actions

- **Rule 1469:** ***Hexavalent Chromium Emissions from Chromium Electroplating and Chromic Acid Anodizing Operations***

On December 5, 2025, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) amended Rule 1469, which regulates hexavalent chromium (Cr^{+6}) emissions from chrome electroplating and chromic acid anodizing operations. The amendments were made to align with California's Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) and to introduce stricter limits and compliance timelines.

Starting January 1, 2026, functional chrome plating and chromic acid anodizing tanks must meet a lower Cr^{+6} emission limit of 0.00075 milligram per ampere-hour (mg/Ah), down from 0.0015 mg/Ah. Compliance is achieved using add-on air pollution controls. Facilities are required to conduct initial and reoccurring source testing for Cr^{+6}. The amended rule prohibits new Cr^{+6} plating and chromic acid anodizing facilities and phases out all existing equipment by January 1, 2039.

Decorative chromium electroplating operations must phase out using Cr^{+6} by January 2, 2030. Facilities issued a Permit to Construct after January 1, 2029, for non-Cr^{+6} alternative equipment may qualify for an alternative phase-out date. In such cases, the facility would phase out Cr^{+6} by the earliest of the following: 1) the expiration date of the Permit to Construct for the alternative equipment; 2) the issuance date of the Permit to Operate for the alternative equipment; or 3) January 2, 2031.

Additional operational and recordkeeping requirements, including building enclosures, housekeeping, and the use of covers or fume suppressants, are included in the amended rule. In some cases, a permit application may be submitted to the SCAQMD to meet the requirements of amended Rule 1469.

- **Rules 1107, 1124, and 1144:** ***Coating of Metal Parts and Products, Aerospace Assembly and Component Manufacturing Operations, and Metalworking Fluids and Direct-Contact Lubricants***

The SCAQMD amended three coating rules to phase out para-Chlorobenzotrifluoride (p-CBtF) and tert-butyl acetate (t-BAc), similar to other recently amended rules. The amendments were made on December 5, 2025, for Rule 1107 and on April 3, 2026, for Rules 1124 and 1144. The amended rules include provisions for manufacturers to reformulate products without p-CBtF and t-BAc, as well as sell-through periods to ensure manufacturers, distributors, and end users have time to transition. Rule 1124 includes additional compliance options for materials that rely on p-CBtF or t-BAc in their formulation, including continued use of materials if emissions are vented to an air pollution control device or if the facility chooses the low-use provision to limit annual usage specified in the rule.

- **Rule 463:** ***Organic Liquid Storage***

On January 9, 2026, the SCAQMD amended Rule 463, applicable to stationary aboveground tanks. Amended Rule 463 clarifies that optical gas imaging (OGI) inspections are not required for aboveground gasoline storage tanks between 950 liters (251 gallons) and 75,000 liters (19,815 gallons). The amended rule provides operators of small aboveground gasoline storage tanks with an additional compliance option, allowing them to meet performance requirements through a Phase I vapor recovery system.

SCAQMD PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

For full details on changes below, go to: https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/scaqmd-rule-book/proposed-rules

- **Rule 1157:** ***PM_{10} Emission Reductions from Aggregate and Related Operations***

The SCAQMD is proposing amendments to Rule 1157, which applies to aggregate operations such as quarries, sand and gravel facilities, concrete batch plants, and asphalt plants. The SCAQMD recently released draft rule language on August 4th and has scheduled a public hearing to approve the rule amendments for September 4, 2026.

The proposed rule amendments would expand applicability to include transfer stations and expand dust suppression, recordkeeping, and enforcement requirements. Proposed changes include increased frequency of watering, sweeping, and housekeeping; construction of wind screens by storage piles within 30 feet of public roads; revised rumble grate requirements; and increased dust control requirements for facilities with fugitive dust violations. Recordkeeping to demonstrate compliance will also be more comprehensive and stringent.

Yorke Engineering, LLC specializes in air quality and environmental consulting for stationary and mobile sources, including dispersion modeling, health risk assessments, permitting, emissions inventories, air quality compliance systems, etc. Yorke Engineering has assisted over 2,350 customers, including a wide variety of industrial facilities and government organizations throughout California.

Yorke® ENGINEERING, LLC
31726 Rancho Viejo Road, Suite 218
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
E-mail: Info@YorkeEngr.com
(949) 248-8490