



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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February 6, 2009

Office of the Secretary for Resources
Attn: General Counsel's Office
1416 9th Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed please find two copies of the Notice of Decision (NOD) for the CEQA document prepared for Proposed Rule (PR) 2702– *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program*. The Final Program Environmental Assessment (PEA) for PR 2702 was prepared pursuant to CEQA and the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) certified regulatory program. The CEQA document was certified by SCAQMD's Governing Board at its February 6, 2009, Public Hearing. Please record and post the NOD according to the provisions of CEQA.

SCAQMD Rule 110 requires that written responses to public comments on a SCAQMD CEQA document be filed with the Secretary of Resources along with the Notice of Decision. Three comment letters were received on the Draft PEA for PR 2702, therefore, a copy of the Final PEA, which includes the comment letters and responses to the comment letters, is enclosed.

It was determined that the proposed project qualifies for the “no effect” fee exemption in accordance with recently revised Department of Fish and Game Code §711.4, Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR) and, therefore, a copy of the signed Fish and Game “no effect” fee exemption form is attached to prove compliance and ensure immediate posting of the NOD.

Please confirm receipt of one copy of the NOD and return them to the undersigned. Two return envelopes have been provided for your convenience (one for the confirmed copy upon receipt, and one for the original NOD to be returned after the posting period). If you have any questions, please call me at (909) 396-3054 or Michael Krause at (909) 396-2706.

Sincerely,

Steve Smith, Ph.D.
CEQA Program Supervisor
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources

Enclosures

NOTICE OF DECISION

To: Office of the Secretary for Resources
General Counsel's Office
1416 9th Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: SCAQMD
Planning, Rules and Area Sources
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Subject: FILING OF NOTICE OF DECISION IN COMPLIANCE WITH §21080.5 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE

Project Title: Final Program Environmental Assessment (PEA): Proposed Rule 2702 – Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program

Lead Agency: South Coast Air Quality Management District

SCAQMD Number: 081104MK **Date Certified:** February 6, 2009
SCH Number: 2008111002

Contact Person: Michael Krause **Telephone Number:** (909) 396-2706

Project Location: South Coast Air Quality Management District area of jurisdiction: South Coast Air Basin (all of Orange County and the non-desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties), and the Riverside County portions of the Salton Sea Air Basin and Mojave Desert Air Basin

Project Description: The proposed project will establish a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Program for GHG reduction projects in the district and provide GHG certified emission reductions. The SCAQMD will fund projects to reduce emissions using money from program participants who need certified GHG reductions. The Draft PEA concluded that the proposed projects could potentially generate adverse air quality, energy, hazards, hydrology, noise, public services, solid waste and transportation/traffic impacts during implementation (construction) of projects likely under different protocols, but the impacts would not be significant. The Draft PEA also concluded that no other environmental topic areas would be significantly adversely affected by the proposed project.

This is to advise that the South Coast Air Quality Management District has approved the above described project and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. A Final PEA for PR 2702 was approved pursuant to the provision of CEQA and SCAQMD Rule 110.
2. The Final PEA concluded that the proposed project would not have a significant impact on the environment and, therefore, no mitigation measures were required.
3. No mitigation measures were required for this project and, therefore, a mitigation monitoring program under PRC § 21081.6 was not adopted for this project.
4. Findings and a Statement of Overriding Considerations were not required and, thus, not adopted for this project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §§15091 and 15093, respectively.

The Final PEA, supporting documentation, and record of project approval may be examined at: SCAQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765.

Date Received for Filing

Signature: _____
Steve Smith, Ph.D.
Program Supervisor, CEQA
Planning, Rule Development, and Area Sources