

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF, OR AMENDMENT TO, THE RULES AND REGULATIONS  
OF THE SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
AND PROPOSED SUBMISSION INTO THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

### **RE: Proposed Amended Rule 1118 – Control of Emissions from Refinery Flares**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a public hearing on the matter of adoption of rules and regulations for the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD), or the amendments thereto, will be held on Friday, **April 5, 2024**, in the Dr. William A. Burke Auditorium at South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, at 9:00 a.m., at which time evidence will be taken and all interested persons will be heard by the South Coast AQMD Governing Board. The meeting will be conducted through a hybrid format of in-person and/or virtual attendance via videoconferencing and by telephone with opportunities for public comment. Please refer to the instructions on South Coast AQMD's website for details on how to participate: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes>.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the South Coast AQMD is considering the adoption of Proposed Amended Rule 1118 – Control of Emissions from Refinery Flares (PAR 1118). The objective of PAR 1118 is to further minimize emissions from flares located at refineries, sulfur plants, and hydrogen production plants and implement recommendations made in the Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach Community Emissions Reduction Plan. PAR 1118 will establish more stringent requirements by lowering the existing sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) performance target, set a new performance target for oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions from flares at hydrogen production plants, and set a new annual throughput threshold for flares connected to liquified petroleum gas storage tanks. PAR 1118 will also adjust mitigation fees using the Consumer Price Index, and include additional reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that PAR 1118 will be submitted to the California Air Resources Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency for inclusion into the State Implementation Plan.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that PAR 1118 implements Sections 110, 172, and 182(e) of the Clean Air Act.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that a written analysis pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 40727.2 has been prepared that identifies all existing state and federal air pollution control requirements, all existing and proposed South Coast AQMD rules and regulations, and all pollution control requirements and guidelines that apply to the same equipment or source type as PAR 1118.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15002(k) and 15061, the proposed project (PAR 1118) is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3). A Notice of Exemption will be prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062, and if the proposed project is approved, the Notice of Exemption will be filed for posting with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange,

Riverside and San Bernardino counties, and the State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the South Coast AQMD staff has prepared documents, for consideration by the South Coast AQMD Governing Board, including:

- Draft PAR 1118
- Draft Staff Report for PAR 1118
- Comparative Analysis for PAR 1118, included in the Draft Staff Report
- Draft Socioeconomic Impact Assessment for PAR 1118, included in the Draft Staff Report

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the above documents may be obtained from the South Coast AQMD website at <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/scaqmd-rule-book/proposed-rules/rule-1118>, or by calling the Public Information Center at (909) 396-2001, or from: Mr. Derrick Alatorre – Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, (909) 396-2432, [PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov](mailto:PublicAdvisor@aqmd.gov).

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that at the conclusion of the public hearing, consistent with Health and Safety Code Section 40726, the South Coast AQMD Governing Board may make other modifications to PAR 1118, which are justified by the evidence presented, or may decline to adopt some or all of the proposed amendments.

Please direct questions, comments, or requests for clarification regarding PAR 1118 to Zoya Banan, Ph.D., [zbanan@aqmd.gov](mailto:zbanan@aqmd.gov), (909) 396-2332. Please direct CEQA inquiries to Jivar Afshar, [jafshar@aqmd.gov](mailto:jafshar@aqmd.gov), (909) 396-2040, and Socioeconomic Impact Assessment inquiries to Valerie Rivera, [vrivera@aqmd.gov](mailto:vrivera@aqmd.gov), (909) 396-3007. Comments and inquiries can also be submitted to the attention of the above person(s) to Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765.

Interested persons may provide oral statements at the Public Hearing. Ten (10) copies of all hard copy written materials must be submitted to the Clerk of the Boards. Individuals who wish to submit written or electronic comments must submit such comments to the Clerk of the Boards, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA, 91765-4178, (909) 396-2500, or to [cob@aqmd.gov](mailto:cob@aqmd.gov), on or before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2, 2024.

#### **Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility**

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the Governing Board meeting. The agenda will be made available, upon request, in appropriate alternative formats to assist persons with a disability (Gov't Code Section 54954.2(a)). In addition, other documents may be requested in alternative formats and languages. Any disability or language-related accommodation must be requested as soon as practicable. Requests will be accommodated unless providing the accommodation would result in a fundamental alteration or undue burden to the South Coast AQMD. Please contact the Clerk of the Boards Office, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA, 91765-4178, at (909) 396-2500 (for TTY, 909-396-3560) from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to [cob@aqmd.gov](mailto:cob@aqmd.gov).

DATED: February 23, 2024

FAYE THOMAS  
Clerk of the Boards