



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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April 4, 2012

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Notice of Preparation of a CEQA Document for the Statewide Mercury Policy and Mercury Control Program for Reservoirs

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) staff appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. These comments are recommendations regarding the analysis of potential impacts on air quality due to the proposed project.

The project proposes to develop a statewide policy for adopting water quality objectives, implementing requirements, and control plans for reservoirs adversely impacted by mercury. One of the means listed as a potential implementation action is the control of atmospheric deposition from industrial sources through the use of emission controls. If this statewide policy calls for new emission controls on industrial sources, close coordination with local air districts like SCAQMD will be required. Although details on the proposed statewide policy are not yet available, SCAQMD staff requests that the policy allow for consideration of local sources of pollution for each reservoir. As each reservoir may have differing contribution levels from local sources of mercury air emissions, the policy should ensure that any emission controls that are applicable for one reservoir are not necessarily proposed statewide without consideration of local conditions.

SCAQMD staff requests that our agency be included in the contact list for any future activities regarding this proposed policy. Note that copies of the Draft EIR that are submitted to the State Clearinghouse are not forwarded to the SCAQMD. Please forward a copy of the Draft EIR directly to SCAQMD at the address in our letterhead. In addition, please send with the draft EIR all appendices or technical documents related to the air quality and greenhouse gas analyses and electronic versions of all air quality modeling and health risk assessment files. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call Ian MacMillan, Program Supervisor, CEQA Section, at (909) 396-3244.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian V. MacMillan".

Ian MacMillan
Program Supervisor, CEQA Inter-Governmental Review
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

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