

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Notice of Public Workshop

Proposed Amended Rule 1405 – Control of Ethylene Oxide Emissions from Sterilization and Related Operations

March 23, 2023
2:00 p.m.

<https://scaqmd.zoom.us/j/98171271952>

Webinar ID: 981 7127 1952

To participate by phone or for audio by phone, dial:

+1 (669) 900-6833

(Please note if the Zoom webinar link provided does not work, copy the link into web browser, or directly enter the webinar ID into the Zoom web or mobile application)

The Public Workshop will be conducted via video conferencing (Zoom) which can be accessed via your computer or smart phone. Alternatively, stakeholders can phone-in to participate. We understand that this is not the same as an in-person public meeting; however, staff will take the time to listen to comments from all stakeholders. You are invited to attend the meeting electronically through Zoom or the phone. Instructions on how to participate can be found at the top of this notice.

Purpose of This Meeting

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) has scheduled a public workshop for the purpose of soliciting information and suggestions from the public on Proposed Amended Rule 1405 – Control Of Ethylene Oxide Emissions From Sterilization and Related Operations (PAR 1405). PAR 1405 is scheduled for a Public Hearing before the South Coast AQMD Governing Board on June 2, 2023 (subject to change).

Background

Sterilization and fumigation processes using ethylene oxide (EtO) are regulated under Rule 1405. During South Coast AQMD's monitoring efforts at several commercial sterilization facilities in 2022, the agency became aware of fugitive emissions from sources that were not previously identified at elevated levels of concentration. PAR 1405 is being developed to address EtO emissions from sterilization processes and related operations.

Proposed Amended Rule and Objectives

PAR 1405 includes new and enhanced control and monitoring requirements to further reduce both stack and fugitive EtO emissions from sterilization operations, as well as other provisions such as reporting, recordkeeping and source testing. PAR 1405 also includes requirements such as labeling and inventory provisions for certain large warehouses and designated warehouses receiving EtO-sterilized materials.

California Environmental Quality Act

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and South Coast AQMD's certified regulatory program (Public Resources Code Section 21080.5, CEQA Guidelines Section 15251(l) and South Coast AQMD Rule 110), the South Coast AQMD, as lead agency for the proposed project, will prepare the appropriate CEQA documentation for the proposed project in accordance with CEQA requirements.

Available Supporting Documents

The following supporting documents will be made available on or before March 19, 2023:

- Preliminary Draft of PAR 1405; and
- Preliminary Draft Staff Report for PAR 1405

To Obtain Copies of the Above Documents

Copies of the preliminary draft staff report and preliminary drafts of PAR 1405 may be obtained from:

Derrick Alatorre/Public Advisor
South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Phone: (909) 396-2432
Email: dalatorre@aqmd.gov

The documents and others related to this rule making may be accessed from the South Coast AQMD website at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/scaqmd-rule-book/proposed-rules/rule-1405>

Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the public workshop. 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 Jacob Allen at (909) 396-2282 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to jallen2@aqmd.gov.

Submission of Documents or Comments

Please submit comments, documents, studies, reports, or other relevant information to the contacts listed below:

PAR 1405:
Areio Soltani
South Coast AQMD/PRDI
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Phone: (909) 396-3318
Email: asoltani@aqmd.gov

CEQA:
Farzaneh Khalaj, Ph.D.
South Coast AQMD/PRDI-CEQA
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Phone: (909) 396-3022
Email: fkhalaj@aqmd.gov

Written comments on PAR 1405 should be submitted by **April 6, 2023**.