# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE, PUBLIC AFFAIRS & MEDIA

## **MEMORANDUM**

DATE: February 20, 2025

TO: South Bay Cities Council of Governments

FROM: South Coast Air Quality Management District

SUBJECT: February 2025 Updates

### **South Coast AQMD Updates**

# South Coast AQMD Compliance Assistance Training – Business Update

South Coast AQMD provides compliance assistance training to help businesses understand air quality regulations, implement new control technologies, and maintain compliance with federal, state, and local clean air requirements.

- Interactive Training Opportunities:
  - o Courses offer direct engagement with AQMD compliance staff.
  - Participants gain insights into current and upcoming regulations affecting their industry.
  - Training is led by experienced inspectors and specialists familiar with equipment, processes, and regulatory requirements.
- Available Training Courses Include:
  - o Asbestos Demolition & Renovation (Rule 1403)
  - Gasoline Transfer & Dispensing (Rule 461)
  - o And more, tailored to key industry compliance needs

Due to high demand, all classes require advance registration—no walk-in registrations allowed. Visit South Coast AQMD's website for details on upcoming training sessions.

#### **South Coast AQMD Governing Board Summer Internship Program**

The **South Coast AQMD Governing Board Summer Internship Program** provides undergraduate and graduate students with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience working alongside air quality and environmental professionals. This program allows students to explore career paths in science, policy, environmental justice, and other related fields while contributing to efforts to improve air quality in one of the most challenging air districts in the United States.

The internship program offers two tracks:

- A 10-week program running from May 27, 2025, to August 1, 2025.
- An 8-week program running from June 10, 2025, to August 1, 2025.

Interns will work up to **28 hours per week** and will be assigned to various departments within South Coast AQMD.

#### **Application and Selection Process**

Applications for the Summer 2025 program will be accepted from February 7, 2025, to March 7, 2025. Submitted applications will be reviewed in April by South Coast AQMD Governing Board members, and selected students will be notified in May. Participants will begin their assignments based on their selected program track.

Interested students can apply at https://www.aqmd.gov/careers . For additional questions regarding the recruitment process, please contact the South Coast AQMD Human Resources Department.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 7, 2025

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South Coast AQMD Revises Proposed Rules on Residential Space and Water Heaters
Changes Reflect Public Feedback to Support Consumer Choice and Economic Impacts

**DIAMOND BAR** – Today, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) announced a revised approach for Proposed Amended Rules 1111 and 1121 for residential space and water heaters, designed to address concerns from the public regarding consumer choice and potential economic impacts.

The proposed rules apply to new residential natural gas space and water heaters. At the urging of the South Coast AQMD Governing Board, staff expanded outreach and engagement efforts to a broader range of stakeholders including advisory groups, municipalities, councils of governments, business organizations, and community groups. The revised approach allows consumer choice of either gas or zero-emission units. If approved, these rules will reduce smog-forming emissions by nine tons per day, representing one of the most significant reductions of any rulemaking for the agency.

A **Working Group Meeting** will be held virtually on **Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.** to provide an update on this revised approach. For the meeting link and additional information, visit the new webpage: <a href="https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/residential-and-commercial-building-appliances">https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/residential-and-commercial-building-appliances</a>.

In support of these efforts, the South Coast AQMD Governing Board has approved the <u>Go Zero</u> pilot incentive program. With \$21 million in funding, this program offers incentives for residents and small businesses to adopt zero-NOx (nitrogen oxides) emission space and water heating appliances, promoting cleaner air and healthier communities.

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <a href="https://www.aqmd.gov">www.aqmd.gov</a>, download our award-winning <a href="https://www.aqmd.gov">app</a>, or follow us on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:X">X</a> (formerly known as Twitter) and <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>.