

The Business Bulletin

A publication of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

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www.valleyair.org

Streamlined Permitting for Almond Hullers

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District recently adopted a policy designed to streamline permitting requirements for the almond processing industry.

The new policy promises expedited processing for permit modifications during the almond hulling season, eliminating potentially expensive delays for the huller. In addition, standardized permit conditions and testing requirements have been established for each of the major hulling processes.

“Like other permit streamlining measures developed by the Valley Air District, this policy addresses the industry’s need for expedited permits without sacrificing environmental safeguards,” said Dave Warner, a District Permit Services manager who worked with the Almond Hullers and Processors Association to develop the policy.

Gene Beach, manager of the Almond Hullers and Processors Association, agreed. “This policy is beneficial to both permit applicants and to the Air District, in that everyone understands what is required for applications and permits,” Beach said.

Several years ago, the District developed a similar policy for cotton gins, with the assistance of the California Cotton Ginners Association. The District also has developed Guidelines for Expedited Application Review (GEARs) for auto body shops, gas stations, drycleaners, emergency internal combustion engines, and several other industries. In all cases the District’s policies have been developed to ensure compliance with clean air regulations, while also streamlining permitting requirements.

The policies are available online at http://www.valleyair.org/policies_per/policies_per_idx.htm.

INSPECT Program

The Industry Self-Inspection program – known as INSPECT – helps improve compliance with air quality regulations and streamlines the Valley Air District’s inspection program.

Through the INSPECT program, developed in partnership with business and industry leaders, the Air District helps businesses develop self-inspection programs for their facilities. This helps each business operator implement routine inspections of their equipment and promptly correct any deficiencies that may be discovered. In return, the Air District eliminates penalties for many self-reported violations and reduces penalties for others.

The INSPECT program is the latest addition to the District’s compliance assistance program, which focuses on education, prevention of violations, and cooperation.

More details about the INSPECT program are available online at <http://www.valleyair.org/busind/comply/inspect.htm>.



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Rule Changes and Workshops

Westside Exemption Project
Proposed amendments for the
Westside Exemption Project
*Public workshop tentatively scheduled
for September 28, 2002*

Rule 4311
Flares
Adopted – June 20, 2002

Rule 4693
Bakery Ovens
Adopted – May 16, 2002

Rule 3170
Federally Mandated Ozone
Non-attainment Fee
Adopted – May 16, 2002

Rule 4610
Glass Coating Operations
Adopted – May 16, 2002

Rule 4661
Organic Solvents
Amended – May 16, 2002

Rule 4703
Stationary Gas Turbines
Amended – April 25, 2002

Rule 2530
Federally Enforceable Potential
To Emit
Amended – April 25, 2002

Rule 2201
New and Modified Stationary
Source Review
Amended – April 25, 2002

Rule 2020
Exemptions
Amended – March 21, 2002

Rule 4692
Commercial Charbroiling
Adopted – March 21, 2002

Rule 7050
Asbestos-Containing Material
For Surfacing Applications
Amended – March 21, 2002

Rule 4354
Glass Melting Furnaces
Amended – February 21, 2002

District Directory

San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution Control District
Smog Info Line (800) 766-4463
Smoking Vehicle (800) 559-9247
Job Line (559) 230-6019

Northern
Region Office (209) 557-6400
Complaint Line (800) 281-7003
Small Business
Assistance (209) 557-6446

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