

AIR QUALITY IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Despite years of cleaner air, people in the San Joaquin Valley still breathe some of the dirtiest air in the nation. The Valley fails to meet federal and state requirements for winter and summer air quality. This dirty air is harmful to health and can lead to lung problems, heart attacks, cancer and premature death.

The Indirect Source Review rule makes residential, commercial and industrial developers reduce their larger projects' contribution to our air quality problems.

New development contributes to air-pollution problems by increasing the number of cars and the number of miles driven in those vehicles. Developments also result in other pollution-causing activities such as landscape maintenance, fuel combustion and the use of consumer products.

For more information about Indirect Source Review, please see the Program/ISR section of www.valleyair.org or call the nearest District office.



Northern Region

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Central Region (Main Office)

Serving Madera, Fresno and Kings counties
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Southern Region

Serving Tulare and Valley air basin portions of Kern counties
34946 Flyover Court, Bakersfield, CA 93308-9725
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Please visit our web site at www.valleyair.org
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INDIRECT SOURCE REVIEW

Reducing new developments' impact on air quality.



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

1-800 SMOG INFO
www.valleyair.org

New developments in the San Joaquin Valley may be subject to the Indirect Source Review rule.

Which Projects Are Affected?

The Indirect Source Review (ISR) rule applies to new developments expected to create a substantial amount of air pollution. Applications are required for projects that are at least:

- 50 residential units
- 2,000 square feet of commercial space
- 9,000 square feet of educational space
- 10,000 square feet of government space
- 20,000 square feet of medical or recreational space
- 25,000 square feet of light industrial space
- 39,000 square feet of general office space
- 100,000 square feet of heavy industrial space
- Or, 9,000 square feet of any land use not identified above

Projects that meet these thresholds but are found through the application process to have mitigated emissions of less than two tons per year each of nitrogen oxides and PM10 (particulate matter 10 microns and smaller) will not be subject to the emission-reduction requirements of the rule.

Projects Not Affected

The following projects are exempt and do not need to apply:

- Projects, including expansions or additions to existing projects, that don't meet the thresholds listed above.
- Construction or modification of facilities or projects whose primary functions already are regulated by Air District permit requirements.
- Reconstruction of a development project that was damaged or destroyed and is rebuilt to the same use and intensity.
- Change-of-use projects that don't involve construction or reconstruction and don't increase vehicle trips for the project.
- Other projects, including certain road-construction projects. Contact the District for a full list.

What Is Required?

The Indirect Source Review rule requires developers to mitigate:

- 20 percent of construction equipment exhaust nitrogen oxides;
- 45 percent of construction equipment exhaust PM10;
- 33 percent of operational nitrogen oxides over 10 years; and
- 50 percent of operational PM10 over 10 years.

Incorporate On-Site Mitigation

Developers are encouraged to reduce as much air pollution as possible through on-site mitigation, or incorporating air-friendly designs and practices into the project.

For a list of on-site mitigation measures, contact the Air District.



Some examples: bike paths and sidewalks, traditional street design, medium- to high-density residential developments, locating near transit, increasing energy efficiency and others.

Off-Site Fees May Apply

If the on-site mitigation measures selected by a developer don't achieve the required baseline emission reductions, the developer will mitigate the difference by paying off-site mitigation fees to the Air District. The Air District will use these fees to achieve off-site emission reductions by funding clean air projects. The off-site mitigation fee formula is structured to encourage on-site mitigation measures. The developer also will pay an administration fee equal to four percent of the off-site fee.

How To Apply

1. Get an Indirect Source Review application online at www.valleyair.org under Program/Indirect Source Review or at the nearest Air District office. Submit the application to the District prior to – or concurrent with – the project's land-use application to the city, county or municipality. An application fee also is required.

2. The District will notify you within 10 days whether the application is complete. Missing information will delay the process. Allow up to 30 days from the date the application is deemed complete for an evaluation. The District will send a notice when the evaluation is complete, indicating whether any off-site fees are required for the project as proposed. If fees are due, the developer can pay immediately, opt for a fee-deferral schedule, or change the project to incorporate more on-site mitigation measures and thereby reduce off-site fees.

The District may periodically inspect the project to verify compliance with on-site mitigation measures that aren't required and inspected by other public agencies.

