

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Date: January 22, 2015
From: San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District
1990 East Gettysburg
Fresno, CA 93726
To: Office of Planning & Research
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
Project Title: San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District Rule Development:
Amendments to Rule 4905 (Natural Gas-fired, Fan-type Residential Central Furnaces)

Project Location - Specific: Not Applicable

Project Location - City: All cities within the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin (SJVAB)

Project Location - County: All counties in the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin (SJVAB): Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare.

Description of Project: This is a rule amendment project to amend existing District Rule 4905 (Natural Gas-fired, Fan-type Residential Central Furnaces). Rule 4905 applies to natural gas-fired, fan-type residential central furnaces with a rated heat input capacity of less than 175,000 British thermal units per hour (Btu/hr), and for combination heating and cooling units with a rated cooling capacity of less than 65,000 Btu/hr. The purpose of this rule amendment project is to fulfill commitments in the District's *2008 PM2.5 Plan*, *2012 PM2.5 Plan*, and *2013 Plan for the Revoked 1-Hour Ozone Standard* to further reduce NOx emissions from residential units and explore the possibility of extending rule applicability to include NOx emission limits for commercial units. The proposed amendments include: lower the NOx emission limit for residential units to 14 ng/J; expand the applicability of Rule 4905 to include commercial units with a NOx emission limit of 14 ng/J, units installed in manufactured homes with a NOx emission limit of 40 ng/J, and lower that NOx emission limit to 14 ng/J in 2018; add a per unit emission fee option for noncompliant units sold in the Valley during the initial phase of implementation; add labeling requirements to new units shipped to or sold in the Valley; and remove redundant and expired language, including section 7.0 (Compliance Schedule)

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: San Joaquin Valley Unified APCD

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- Ministerial: §21080(b)(1); 15268
 Declared Emergency: §21080(b)(3); 15269(a)
 Emergency Project: §21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)
 Categorical Exemption:
 Statutory Exemptions:
 General Exemption: Section 15061(b)(3)

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The project is an amendment to existing District Rule 4905 (Natural Gas-fired, Fan-type Residential Central Furnaces). District staff concludes that there is no substantial evidence in the whole record before the District that the proposed amendments to Rule 4905 would cause any adverse effects on the environment. The District finds that the project is exempt per the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment (CCR §15061(b)(3)).

Lead Agency Contact Person: Sharla Yang **Area Code/Telephone:** (559) 230-6000

Signature: 
Arnaud Marjollet **Date:** JAN 26 2015 **Title:** Director of Permit Services

Date received for filing by OPR: _____