
 San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

Revisions to the GAMAQI


Guidance for Assessing and Mitigating
Air Quality Impacts

July 23, 2014

 HEALTHY AIR LIVING
Live a Healthy Air Life

What is the GAMAQI?


- A guide for assessing and mitigating air quality impacts for projects under CEQA
- Uniform procedure for addressing air quality
- Tool for lead agencies, project proponents, consultants, and the public
 - Comprehensive
 - Useful
 - User friendly

 HEALTHY AIR LIVING
Live a Healthy Air Life

2

Revisions

- First adopted 1998
- Revised 2002
- Workshop 2012
- Workshop July 2014

 HEALTHY AIR LIVING
Live a Healthy Air Life

3

More User Friendly

- Document structure better follows in the tracks of the CEQA process, making it easier to understand and use
- New tools to assess project impacts on air quality
- New sections on air quality and District attainment status that can be easily used by Lead Agencies or consultants when preparing a CEQA document
- Outlines screening tools to identify small projects for which detailed analysis is not required (Small Project Analysis Levels – SPALs)

4



Table of Contents

- Introduction
- San Joaquin Valley air basin
- Air pollutants and attainment status
- Greenhouse gases
- Air pollutant emission sources
- Land use and air quality
- CEQA
- Assessing air quality impacts
- Mitigation Measures

5



Capture District Policies/Practices

- Incorporate currently used numerical thresholds of significance for PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$
- Guidance for evaluating construction emissions
- Guidance on when to conduct an Ambient Air Quality Analysis
- Reference District Rule 9510 (Indirect Source Review)
- Voluntary Emission Reduction Agreements (VERAs)
- District CEQA policy on addressing greenhouse gases

6



Thresholds of Significance

- All thresholds consistent with existing practices and current GAMAQI
- Thresholds of Significance
 - Construction Emissions: Short Term
 - Operational Emissions (Permitted): Long Term, NSR
 - Operational Emissions (Non-Permitted): Long Term

7



Construction Impacts

- Compliance with Regulation VIII reduces impacts from fugitive dust during construction phases
- When determining significance of construction impacts, fugitive PM and exhaust PM emissions are combined
- Construction impacts would be significant if emissions would exceed any applicable thresholds of significance

8



Operation Impacts

- Permitted Sources & Activities
 - New Source Review
 - Mitigation required if emissions exceed offset thresholds
 - Offset thresholds same as thresholds of significance
 - Less than significant impact from criteria pollutants
- Non-permitted Sources & Activities
 - Include on-site and off-site mobile source
 - Significant if sum of emissions from non-permitted sources and activities exceed any applicable thresholds of significance

9



Ambient Air Quality Analysis

- Construction Emissions > 100 lb/day
- Operation Emissions (permitted) > 100 lb/day
- Operation Emissions (non-permitted) > 100 lb/day
- Screening Tool
 - Development projects below District Rule 9510 (ISR) applicability thresholds considered below the 100lb/day threshold

10



Comprehensive Tool

- More comprehensive tool to help lead agencies, project proponents, consultants, and the public analyze and address project air quality impacts under CEQA
- Improved legal defensibility of CEQA actions
- More responsive to the needs of San Joaquin Valley cities and counties acting as lead agencies under CEQA

11



District Tools/Resources

- www.valleyair.org/ceqa
 - District Policies
 - CEQA Guidance
 - Land Use Strategies
 - CEQA and Greenhouse Gas
 - OEHHA risk assessment methodologies
 - Small Project Analysis Levels (SPAL) values
 - Emission Assessment Models and Calculators
 - Environmental Review Guidelines
 - Air Quality Mitigation Strategies
 - And more...


12



Questions/Comments

- Webcast participants can email written questions/comments during the workshop session to WebCast@valleyair.org
- Email: Patia.Siong@valleyair.org
- Mail: Patia Siong
1990 E Gettysburg Ave
Fresno, CA 93726
- **Deadline: August 22, 2014**

13



Contact Information

Arnaud Marjollet, Director

- Email: arnaud.marjollet@valleyair.org
- Phone: (559) 230-5904

Chay Thao, Program Manager

- Email: chay.thao@valleyair.org
- Phone: (559) 230-5895

Patia Siong, Supervising AQS

- Email: patia.siong@valleyair.org
- Phone: (559) 230-5930

14

