

*This Advisory is provided to inform you about Air District activities that may affect your operation. It will help you achieve and maintain compliance with applicable air quality rules and regulations.*

**ATTENTION: OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF BOILERS, STEAM GENERATORS, AND PROCESS HEATERS**

**SUBJECT: NEW AIR POLLUTION EMISSION LIMITS AND REQUIREMENTS (REGULATION 9, RULE 7)**

On July 30, 2008, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District amended Regulation 9, Rule 7. The amendments established new air pollution emissions limits for Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and Carbon Monoxide (CO) from boilers, steam generators and process heaters (collectively termed "devices" or "boilers" below). These lower emissions standards reduce air pollution that causes significant public health effects to Bay Area residents and other environmental impacts. The amendments also added new efficiency requirements and require owners and operators to **register** specified smaller devices with the Air District **by January 1, 2011**.

The rule also prohibits the sale or installation of devices with a rated heat input between 2,000,000 and 10,000,000 BTU per hour (BTU/hr) unless the manufacturer of the device certifies that it meets the new air pollution emissions limits. While Air District research indicates that there are devices currently installed and operating that meet these new limits, as of January 20, 2011, no devices have been certified by the Air District. As a result, the Air District intends to propose an **amendment to the rule** to address the lack of certified devices and may provide additional time in which to meet the new air pollution emission limits.

To learn more about this regulation and determine whether it applies to your boilers, please see the attached **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**.

➤ **Exemptions:** Regulation 9, Rule 7 entirely exempts the following devices/boilers:

- Devices with a rated heat input **less than 1,000,000 BTU/hr** per hour fired with any fuel;
- Devices with a rated heat input of **2,000,000 BTU/hr or less** if fired with **natural gas** or liquefied petroleum gas, or any combination thereof;
- Other exemptions listed in **Section 110-117** of the rule (see [www.baaqmd.gov/rules](http://www.baaqmd.gov/rules)).

Also, devices that use **less than 10%** of their "annual maximum heat capacity", as defined in the rule, are exempt from the new NO<sub>x</sub> limits and efficiency requirements if certain requirements are satisfied.

➤ **Registration Requirement:** Effective **January 1, 2011**, small boilers, steam generators and process heaters (those rated greater than 2 MM BTU/hr but less than 10 MM BTU/hr) must **register** with the Air District. There is a one-time fee associated with registration. An **online** registration system for these devices is available at: [www.baaqmd.gov/registration](http://www.baaqmd.gov/registration).

**Note:** Any device currently operating under a **District permit** does not have to register. Larger devices (rated greater than 10 MM BTU/HR) require an Air District **Permit to Operate**. For requirements on District permits, please see **Regulation 2, Rule 1** at: [www.baaqmd.gov/rules](http://www.baaqmd.gov/rules).

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- **New Air Pollution Emission Limits:** Effective January 1, 2011, or a **later date** if the District amends the rule to extend the deadline as described previously, thirty-three percent (33%) of your boilers that are rated greater than 2 MM BTU/hr but less than 5 MM BTU/hr are required to meet specified air pollution emissions limits for NO<sub>x</sub> (30 ppmv) and CO (400 ppmv).<sup>1</sup> **Note:** If you have a newer boiler that was *manufactured* less than **10 years** ago and have one or more of these newer devices at any facility, you have a longer time period to comply.<sup>2</sup>

There are several methods to determine compliance with the emission limits, one method is to consult your device/boiler maintenance or repair service representative who can measure the air pollution emission levels.

- **Insulation Requirements:** Since **January 1, 2010**, insulation requirements have been in effect. These require a boiler or steam generator to not exceed a temperature of **120°F** on any exposed, external surface of the device, including all pipes and ducts heated by the device. **Section 311** of the rule includes several exemptions that limit the amount of insulation that may be required.
- **Temperature Requirement:** Effective **January 1, 2011**, the owner or operator shall not operate a boiler or steam generator with an exhaust stack gas temperature (downstream of any economizer) that exceeds the temperatures in **Section 312** of the rule.
- **Tune-Up Requirement:** All boilers, steam generators and process heaters are required to have a tune-up once each year. Boiler owners or operators must keep records of tune-ups. The tune-up procedure can be found in the Manual of Procedures, Volume I, Part 5, on the Air District's website at: [www.baaqmd.gov/Records/MOP.aspx](http://www.baaqmd.gov/Records/MOP.aspx).
- **Monitoring and Records, Certification, Testing, and Tune-up Requirements:** Refer to **Regulation 9, Rule 7, Sections 313, 406, and the 500s** Sections for additional information.

See the accompanying Compliance Assistance Advisory: "*Manufacturers of Boilers, Steam Generators, and Process Heaters*"

#### More information can be obtained from the following sources:

- ☎ For a copy of the above-listed rule or any Air District rule see: [www.baaqmd.gov/rules](http://www.baaqmd.gov/rules).
- ☎ For questions on the rule amendment process, contact Julian Elliot at [jelliot@baaqmd.gov](mailto:jelliot@baaqmd.gov) or (415) 749-4705.
- ☎ For questions or compliance assistance, call the Compliance Counselor Hotline at: (415) 749-4999 or Michael Wall at [mwall@baaqmd.gov](mailto:mwall@baaqmd.gov) or (415) 749-4903.
- ☎ For questions about Air District Permits, call the Engineering Division at (415) 749-4990.

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to **Section 307** of the Rule to see the revised emissions limits that may apply to your device(s).

<sup>2</sup> Refer to **Section 308** of the Rule to see the compliance schedule that may apply to your device(s).