

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF, OR AMENDMENT TO, THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE  
SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
AND PROPOSED SUBMISSION INTO THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## **RE: Proposed Rule 2306 – Freight Rail Yards and Proposed Rule 316.2 – Fees for Rule 2306**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a public hearing on the matter of adoption of rules and regulations for the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD), or the amendments thereto, will be held on Friday, **August 2, 2024**, in the Dr. William A. Burke Auditorium at South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, at 9:00 a.m., at which time evidence will be taken and all interested persons will be heard by the South Coast AQMD Governing Board. The meeting will be conducted through a hybrid format of in-person and/or virtual attendance via videoconferencing and by telephone with opportunities for public comment. Please refer to the instructions on South Coast AQMD's website for details on how to participate: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/meeting-agendas-minutes>.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the South Coast AQMD is considering the adoption of Proposed Rule 2306 – Freight Rail Yards (PR 2306) and Proposed Rule 316.2 – Fees for Rule 2306 (PR 316.2). PR 2306 and PR 316.2 are part of the suite of Facility Based Mobile Source Measures aimed at collectively addressing emissions related to the goods movement. PR 2306 seeks to reduce nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions associated with freight rail yard operations by requiring operators of freight rail yards to meet or exceed emission reduction targets. PR 2306 will ensure that emission reductions will be proportional or greater in the South Coast AQMD relative to reductions throughout California from implementation of state regulations. PR 2306 will further require reporting by owners and operators of freight rail yards on zero emission infrastructure planning, development, and utilization. Additionally, any state or local government agency contracting with the owner or operator of a freight rail yard in relation to its lease, construction, or operation will be required to include requirements for compliance with PR 2306 in new, renewed, or amended contracts. PR 316.2 will establish fees for owners and operators of freight rail yards to recover reasonable costs incurred by South Coast AQMD for implementation of PR 2306.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that PR 2306 will be submitted to the California Air Resources Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency for inclusion into the State Implementation Plan.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that PR 2306 implements 42 U.S.C. Sections 7410, 7416, 7502, 7511a, and 7513a of the Clean Air Act.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that a written analysis pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 40727.2 has been prepared that identifies all existing state and federal air pollution control requirements, all existing and proposed South Coast AQMD rules and regulations, and all pollution control requirements and guidelines that apply to the same equipment or source type as PR 2306.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that, pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15168(e), PR 2306 is a later activity within the scope of the program approved earlier in the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) and the 2016 AQMP and the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the 2022 AQMP and the Final Program EIR for the 2016 AQMP adequately describe the activity for the purposes of CEQA such that no new environmental document will be required.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15002(k) and 15061, PR 316.2 involves charges by public agencies for the purpose of meeting operating expenses and is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15273. A Notice of Exemption will be prepared

pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062, and if the proposed project is approved, the Notice of Exemption will be filed for posting with the county clerks of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, and the State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the South Coast AQMD staff has prepared documents, for consideration by the South Coast AQMD Governing Board, including:

- Draft PR 2306
- Draft PR 316.2
- Draft Staff Report for PR 2306 and PR 316.2
- Comparative Analysis for PR 2306, included in the Draft Staff Report
- Draft Socioeconomic Impact Assessment for PR 2306 and PR 316.2, included in the Draft Staff Report
- Draft PR 2306 Calculation Methodology
- Data Appendix to Draft PR 2306 Calculation Methodology
- Supplemental Information for Draft PR 316.2 Fee Rates

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the above documents may be obtained on or before July 2, 2024, from the South Coast AQMD website at <https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/rules/scaqmd-rule-book/proposed-rules/rule-2306>, or by calling the Public Information Center at (909) 396-2001, or from: Derrick Alatorre – Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, (909) 396-2432.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that at the conclusion of the public hearing, consistent with Health and Safety Code Section 40726, the South Coast AQMD Governing Board may make other modifications to PR 2306 and PR 316.2, which are justified by the evidence presented, or may decline to adopt some or all of the proposed rules.

Please direct questions, comments, or requests for clarification regarding PR 2306 and PR 316.2 to Cindy Guzman De La Rocha, [RailyardISR@aqmd.gov](mailto:RailyardISR@aqmd.gov), (909) 396-3209. Please direct CEQA inquiries to Jivar Afshar, [jafshar@aqmd.gov](mailto:jafshar@aqmd.gov), (909) 396-2040, and Socioeconomic Impact Assessment inquiries to Daniel Penoyer, [dpenoyer@aqmd.gov](mailto:dpenoyer@aqmd.gov), (909) 396-2205. Comments and inquiries can also be submitted to the attention of the above person(s) to Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765.

Interested persons may provide oral statements at the Public Hearing. Ten (10) copies of all hard copy written materials must be submitted to the Clerk of the Boards. Individuals who wish to submit written or electronic comments must submit such comments to the Clerk of the Boards, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA, 91765-4178, (909) 396-2500, or to [cob@aqmd.gov](mailto:cob@aqmd.gov), on or before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 30, 2024.

#### **Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility**

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the Governing Board meeting. The agenda will be made available, upon request, in appropriate alternative formats to assist persons with a disability (Government Code Section 54954.2(a)). In addition, other documents may be requested in alternative formats and languages. Any disability or language-related accommodation must be requested as soon as practicable. Requests will be accommodated unless providing the accommodation would result in a fundamental alteration or undue burden to the South Coast AQMD. Please contact the Clerk of the Boards Office, South Coast AQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178, at (909) 396-2500 (for TTY, 909-396-3560) from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to [cob@aqmd.gov](mailto:cob@aqmd.gov).

DATED: June 21, 2024

FAYE THOMAS  
Clerk of the Boards