

VENTURA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
November 3, 2009
MINUTES

Chairman Vander Pluym convened the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m.

I. Director's Report

Mike Villegas, APCO, stated the APCD's unaudited financial status report for fiscal year 2008 – 2009 shows a net savings of just over \$1.2 million.

Mr. Villegas stated that the U.S. EPA has proposed a greenhouse gas permitting rule (Tailoring rule). The proposal has states and local air permitting agencies issuing permits via the existing Title V permit program. The proposed rule contains a permit threshold of 25,000 tons per year of CO2 equivalent, which seems reasonable.

Mr. Villegas added that he was representing the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association in providing input on the Department of Pesticide Regulation's new regulation for methyl bromide. Methyl bromide is a soil fumigant that is used in the growing of strawberries, which is a major crop in Ventura County.

II. Call to Order

Chairman Vander Pluym called the meeting to order at approximately 7:40 p.m.

III. Roll Call

Present

Scott Blough

Todd Gernheuser

Sara Head

Steven Kane

Michael Kuhn

Kim Lim

Marleen Luckman

Hugh McTernan

Keith Moore

Michael Moore

Greg Patterson

Ron Peterson

Duane Vander Pluym

Absent

Stephen Garfield (excused)

Cameron Williams

James Tovias

Aaron Hanson

Staff

Mike Villegas

Don Price

Public

Tim Samut

Signature Sales

IV. Minutes

The minutes of the September 22, 2009, meeting were approved as drafted.

V. Committee Comment

There was no Committee comment.

VI. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VII. New Business

A. Proposed Revisions to Rule 74.11, Natural Gas-Fired Residential Water Heaters

Committee member Keith Moore asked how this rule action fits into the overall plan to achieve the federal air quality standard for ozone. Mike Villegas replied the emission reductions to be achieved by amended Rule 74.11, were a small component of the total reductions needed to achieve the air quality standard. Mr. Villegas added that the majority of the emission reductions needed to attain the standard will result from state and federal control measures for mobile sources.

Don Price, of APCD staff, gave an overview of the proposed amended rule. The main points were as follows:

- Amended Rule 74.11 is based on South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1121
- The rule is a point-of-sale regulation; retrofits are not required. Staff has assumed water heaters are replaced every 10 years, so the rule will reach full implementation in 10 years.
- The NO_x limit for new water heaters will drop from 40 ng/joule to 10 ng/joule effective 7/1/2010.
- The exemption for mobile home water heaters will be removed, and they will be subject to a NO_x limit of 40 ng/joule.

Committee member Keith Moore asked the new water heaters would have any change in energy efficiency. Don Price stated that staff assumed no change in efficiency.

Committee member Michael Moore asked if it was possible to set the mobile home water heater limit at 10 ng/joule. Don Price replied that the mobile home units were smaller and had a different flue design.

Committee member Blough asked if the burners could be repaired. Tim Samut, of Signature Sales, stated that burners are not repaired, as water heaters are replaced as a unit. Generally the water tank fails not the burners.

Committee member Kuhn asked if it would be possible to have the rule apply to these types water heaters when they are used in a commercial applications, in addition to residential applications. Don Price replied staff will look at this with industry and review the SCAQMD rule.

Committee member Michael Moore suggested that the definition of “mobile home” could be more flexible. Don Price stated staff would make this change.

Committee member Keith Moore asked if the new water heaters would meet the uniform building code. Tim Samut, of Signature Sales, stated the new units would meet the uniform building code. Further, complying units are available in the SCAQMD region.

Tim Samut added that industry has been expecting this rule amendment and that the complying units were working well.

It was moved (Peterson) and seconded (Kane) to recommend adoption of amended Rule 74.11 as proposed by staff and including the deletion of subsection A.1.b., revising the definition of “Mobile Home”, revising the rule to cover water heaters in both residential and commercial applications. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mike Villegas
Air Pollution Control District Staff