

Title 17. California Air Resources Board

Notice of Public Hearing to Consider Proposed Amendments to the Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Facilities

The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) will conduct a public hearing at the date and time noted below to consider approving for adoption the proposed amendments to the Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Facilities (the Oil and Gas Methane Regulation, or the Regulation).

Date: June 22, 2023

Time: 9:00 A.M.

In-Person Location:

California Air Resources Board
Byron Sher Auditorium
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Remote Option:

Zoom

This public meeting may continue at 9:00 a.m., on June 23, 2023. Please consult the public agenda, which will be posted ten days before the June 22, 2023, Board Meeting, for important details, including the day on which this item will be considered and how the public can participate via Zoom if they choose to be remote.

Written Comment Period and Submittal of Comments

In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing during the hearing and may provide comments by postal mail or by electronic submittal before the hearing. The public comment period for this regulatory action will begin on April 28, 2023. Written comments not submitted during the hearing must be submitted on or after April 28, 2023, and received **no later than June 12, 2023**. Comments submitted outside that comment period are considered untimely. CARB may, but is not required to, respond to untimely comments, including those raising significant environmental issues. The Board also encourages members of the public to bring to the attention of staff in advance of the hearing any suggestions for modification of the proposed

regulatory action. Comments submitted in advance of the hearing must be addressed to one of the following:

Postal mail: Clerks' Office, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Electronic submittal: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php>

Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code, § 7920.000 et seq.), your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the public record and can be released to the public upon request.

Additionally, the Board requests but does not require that persons who submit written comments to the Board reference the title of the proposal in their comments to facilitate review.

Authority and Reference

This regulatory action is proposed under the authority granted in California Health and Safety Code, sections 38510, 38562, 38566, 38580, 39600, 39601, 39603, 39607, 41511 and 42710. This action is proposed to implement, interpret, and make specific sections 38551, 38560, 39600, 40701, 40702, 41511, 42300, 42301, 42311 and 42710.

Informative Digest of Proposed Action and Policy Statement Overview (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(3))

Sections Affected:

Proposed amendments to California Code of Regulations, title 17, division 3, chapter 1, subchapter 10, article 4, subarticle 13, by amending or adding sections 95665, 95666, 95667, 95668, 95669, 95669.1, 95670, 95670.1, 95671, 95672, 95673, 95674, 95675, 95676, 95677, Appendix A, Appendix C, Appendix D, Appendix E, Appendix F, and Appendix G.

Documents Incorporated by Reference (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 20, subd. (c)(3)):

The following documents would be incorporated in the regulation by reference:

- ASTM International, 2006. Specification D4891-89: Standard Test Method for Heating Value of Gases in Natural Gas Range by Stoichiometric Combustion. Reapproved 2006. Copyrighted. **Appendix F(d)(5)(B)(3)**.
- ASTM International, 2000. Specification D6522-00: Standard Test Method for Determination of Nitrogen Oxides, Carbon Monoxide, and Oxygen Concentrations in Emissions from Natural Gas-Fired Reciprocating Engines, Combustion Turbines, Boilers, and Process Heaters Using Portable Analyzers. February 10, 2000. Copyrighted. **Appendix F(b)(4)(A)(1)**.

- ANSI/ASME, 1981. PTC 19.10-1981: Flue and Exhaust Gas Analyses. Copyrighted. **Appendix F sections (b)(4)(A)(1) and (d)(7)(C).**
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), 2012. Protocol 1: EPA Traceability Protocol for Assay and Certification of Gaseous Calibration Standards. May 2012. **Appendix F(d)(9)(D).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60, Appendix A-1 – Test Methods 1 through 2F. Last amended January 14, 2019. **Section 95667(a)(17)(B), Appendix F sections (b)(1), (d)(4)(A), (d)(4)(B), and (d)(6)(A)(2), and Appendix G section (a)(4)(B).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60, Appendix A-2 – Test Methods 2G through 3C. Last amended October 31, 2016. **Appendix F sections (b)(2), (b)(4)(A), (d)(7)(A)(4), (d)(7)(B), (d)(7)(C), and (d)(9)(F).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60, Appendix A-3 – Test Methods 4 through 5I. Last amended March 23, 2021. **Appendix F sections (b)(3), (d)(7)(A), and (d)(7)(B).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60, Appendix A-4 – Test Methods 6 through 10B. Last amended December 7, 2020. **Appendix F section (d)(8).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60, Appendix A-7 – Test Methods 19 through 25E. Last amended December 7, 2020. **Appendix E sections (b)(1)(A)(3), (b)(1)(C), (d)(2)(A)(2), and (f)(6), and Appendix F sections (a)(1), (b)(3), (b)(4), (d)(8), (d)(9)(A), (d)(9)(B), (d)(10), (d)(11)(A)(1), (d)(11)(A)(2), (e)(3), and (e)(5).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60 – Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources, section 60.112b. Last amended October 8, 1997. **Sections 95668(a)(2)(C), 95668(a)(3), 95669(c)(3)(B), Appendix D(b)(2), and Appendix D(h)(6).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60 – Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources, section 60.18. Last amended December 22, 2008. **Appendix E(b)(1)(C) and Appendix F(a)(1).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 63 – National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Source, section 63.1207. Last amended October 28, 2008. **Appendix E sections (b)(2)(B)(3) and (b)(2)(B)(4) and Appendix F sections (a)(4) and (a)(5).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60 – Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources, Subpart Kb. Last amended January 19, 2021. **Appendix D(b)(2).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 63 – National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Source, Subpart EEE. Last amended October 28, 2008. **Appendix E sections (b)(2)(B)(3) and (b)(2)(B)(3) and Appendix F sections (a)(4) and (a)(5).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 264 – Standards for Owners and Operators of Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities, Subpart X. Last amended February 7, 2020. **Appendix E(b)(2)(B)(1).**
- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 266 – Standards for the Management of Specific Hazardous Wastes and Specific Types of Hazardous Waste Management Facilities, Subpart H. Last amended March 18, 2010. **Appendix E sections (b)(2)(B)(5) and (b)(2)(B)(6) and Appendix F section (a)(4).**

- Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 270 – EPA Administered Permit Programs: the Hazardous Waste Permit Program. December 9, 2019. **Appendix E sections (b)(2)(B)(1) and (b)(2)(B)(5) and Appendix F section (a)(4).**
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD). Rule 4623 – Storage of Organic Liquids. Amended May 19, 2005. **Section 95668(a)(2)(C)(1).**
- South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). Rule 463 – Organic Liquid Storage. Amended November 4, 2011. **Section 95668(a)(2)(C)(2).**
- South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). Rule 1178 – Further Reductions of VOC Emissions from Storage Tanks at Petroleum Facilities. Amended April 7, 2006. **Section 95668(a)(2)(C)(3).**
- Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (VCAPCD). Rule 71.1 – Crude Oil Production and Separation. Amended June 16, 1992. **Section 95668(a)(2)(C)(4).**
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD). Rule 4401 – Steam-Enhanced Crude Oil Production Wells. Amended June 16, 2011. **Section 95669(c)(1)(B)(1).**
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD). Rule 4409 – Components at Light Crude Oil Production Facilities, Natural Gas Production Facilities, and Natural Gas Processing Facilities. Adopted April 20, 2005. **Section 95669(c)(1)(B)(2).**
- South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). Rule 1148.1 – Oil and Gas Production Wells. Amended March 5, 2004. **Section 95669(c)(1)(B)(3).**
- South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). Rule 1173 – Control of Volatile Organic Compound Leaks and Releases from Components at Petroleum Facilities and Chemical Plants. Amended February 6, 200. **Section (c)(1)(B)(4).**
- South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). Rule 1176 – VOC Emissions from Wastewater Systems. Amended September 13, 1996. **Section (c)(1)(B)(5).**
- Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (VCAPCD). Rule 74.10 – Components at Crude Oil and Natural Gas Production and Processing Facilities. Amended March 10, 1998. **Section (c)(1)(B)(6).**
- Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (YSAQMD). Rule 2.23 – Fugitive Hydrocarbon Emissions. Amended March 23, 1994. **Section (c)(1)(B)(7).**

Background and Effect of the Proposed Regulatory Action:

Background on Oil and Gas Methane Regulation

California is the 7th largest oil producer and 15th largest natural gas producer in the U.S.^{1,2} According to CARB’s Greenhouse Gas Inventory, the oil and natural gas sector was

¹ Energy Information Administration (EIA) (2022). Crude Oil Production. https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_crd_crpdn_adc_mbb1_a.htm. Accessed 8 Aug 2022.

² EIA (2022). National Gross Gas Withdrawals and Production. https://www.eia.gov/dnav/ng/ng_prod_sum_a_EPG0_FGW_mmcf_a.htm. Accessed 8 Aug 2022.

responsible for approximately 14% of California’s methane emissions in 2020.³ Reducing methane emissions is important as methane is a potent climate pollutant, especially in the near-term. In addition, pollutants with potential air quality or health implications are often co-emitted with methane.

The Oil and Gas Methane Regulation is designed to reduce methane emissions from the oil and natural gas sector primarily through equipment replacement, emission control systems, maintenance, and leak detection and repair (LDAR). The Regulation responds to California’s emission reduction goals for greenhouse gases, as codified in Assembly Bill (AB) 32⁴ and Senate Bill (SB) 32.⁵

The Regulation covers new and existing oil and gas facilities, including oil and gas production, processing, and storage facilities; natural gas gathering and boosting stations; natural gas underground storage facilities; and natural gas transmission compressor stations. The Regulation includes requirements for LDAR, vapor control on uncontrolled tanks above an emission threshold, replacement of compressors’ high-emitting rod packing or wet seals, no-bleed pneumatic devices and pumps, additional monitoring at natural gas underground storage facilities, measuring of liquids unloading and well casing vent emissions, and recordkeeping and reporting.

Proposed Amendments to Oil and Gas Methane Regulation and Their Effects

One type of co-pollutant that may be emitted along with methane is volatile organic compounds (VOC), which contribute to the formation of ozone. Because of this, CARB included the Oil and Gas Methane Regulation in its State Implementation Plan (SIP) submittal in 2018 to address emissions in ozone non-attainment areas. In September 2022, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) issued a *limited approval, limited disapproval* of the Oil and Gas Methane Regulation as submitted into the SIP.⁶ Specifically, U.S. EPA identified a number of inconsistencies between the CARB Oil and Gas Methane Regulation and U.S. EPA’s 2016 Control Techniques Guidelines (CTG)⁷, which define the level of control required for oil and natural gas sector sources in ozone non-attainment areas. CARB needs to amend the regulation to address areas where CARB’s regulation may be less stringent than the CTG for ozone non-attainment areas to achieve approval of the SIP.

³ CARB (2022). 2000-2020 GHG Inventory (2022 Edition). California Methane Inventory for 2000-2020 – by Sector and Activity. Last updated 26 October 2022.

⁴ AB 32, Nuñez, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006.

⁵ SB 32, Pavley, Chapter 249, Statutes of 2016.

⁶ U.S. EPA (2022). Limited Approval, Limited Disapproval of California Air Plan Revisions; California Air Resources Board. FR Doc 2022–20870. Filed 9-29-22; 8:45 am. <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-09-30/pdf/2022-20870.pdf>

⁷ U.S. EPA (2016). Control Techniques Guidelines for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry. <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-10/documents/2016-ctg-oil-and-gas.pdf>.

In addition to changes to address the SIP deficiencies, the proposed amendments include changes related to knowledge gained through implementation of the Regulation and the increasing availability of remote leak detection technology. These proposed amendments will add new requirements that will affect the same set of industries and businesses that were already subject to the Regulation. According to reporting data from the Regulation, the proposed amendments will directly impact 302 businesses, including 294 businesses in the oil and natural gas extraction segment and 8 businesses in the natural gas transmission and storage segment. All of these are California businesses. None of the primary industries are small businesses.

The total cost of the proposed amendments over a five-year analysis period is estimated at \$6.6 million, which includes \$2.2 million in the first year and \$1.1 million annually thereafter. The proposed amendments are estimated to cost a typical business \$7,449 in the first year and \$3,631 in subsequent years. For businesses with larger operations, the costs may be higher than the averages presented.

The costs of the proposed amendments are estimated to be approximately 0.03% and 0.01% of the output of the affected industries in the first and subsequent years, respectively. Therefore, there is not expected to be quantifiable changes to the number of jobs or businesses in the primary industries as a result of the proposed amendments. There may be some increase in demand for companies that contract with the primary industries to provide services related to LDAR, vapor collection system testing, and other tasks.

CARB may also consider other changes to the sections affected, as listed on page 2 of this notice, or other sections within the scope of this notice, during the course of this rulemaking process.

Objectives and Benefits of the Proposed Regulatory Action:

The proposed amendments are designed primarily to comply with U.S. EPA's requirements for California's SIP. U.S. EPA outlined each deficiency in the Oil and Gas Methane Regulation in their decision and provided further detail in an accompanying technical support document that was posted with their earlier proposed decision.^{8,9} Most of these changes are minor or administrative in nature. Some of the more substantial provisions in response to the U.S. EPA decision include requiring operators to identify components and equipment subject to LDAR (accomplished through required development of LDAR plans), testing and other provisions to demonstrate that vapor collection and control systems are achieving sufficient control

⁸ U.S. EPA (2022). Limited Approval, Limited Disapproval of California Air Plan Revisions; California Air Resources Board. FR Doc 2022-20870. Filed 9-29-22; 8:45 am. <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-09-30/pdf/2022-20870.pdf>

⁹ U.S. EPA (2022). Technical Support Document for EPA's Rulemaking for the California State Implementation Plan: California Air Resources Board (CARB) Regulation for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Facilities. April 2022. <https://www.regulations.gov/document/EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0416-0002>.

efficiency, and reducing the amount of CARB Executive Officer discretion. These changes are necessary to achieve approval of the SIP and avoid sanctions that would otherwise occur.

Some proposed amendments are based on experience implementing the Regulation or for cleanup reasons. These proposed amendments are mostly administrative in nature, such as changing reporting methods, fixing typos, improving definitions, removing requirements for time periods in the past, and clarifying provisions that have caused confusion. The changes will make it easier for regulated parties to understand and adhere to the Regulation.

The proposed amendments are also intended to utilize the State's investments in improved methane monitoring technologies, including the recently budgeted \$100M for remote methane monitoring satellites. A new provision based on this remote monitoring data is expected to reduce emissions from large sources from the time period between when the detection occurs and the next regularly scheduled quarterly LDAR survey. For components not covered by periodic LDAR, the remote monitoring provision may also result in the repair of leaks that could have continued much longer.

The changes in the proposed amendments will improve the clarity and effectiveness of the Oil and Gas Methane Regulation, will provide CARB with additional data, and will reduce time delays in addressing methane leaks.

Comparable Federal Regulations:

Oil and natural gas operations are subject to the federal Clean Air Act (CAA), including its permitting requirements. Operations are also subject to U.S. EPA performance standards for oil and natural gas operations. These regulations, 40 C.F.R. Part 60, Subpart OOOO, limit emissions of VOC from new equipment installed at crude oil and natural gas operations. Corresponding air toxics standards for certain pieces of oil and natural gas equipment are also codified in 40 C.F.R Part 63.

In May 2016, U.S. EPA also finalized methane emission standards under section 111 of the CAA for new equipment in oil and natural gas fields. These regulations are codified at 40 C.F.R Part 60, Subpart OOOOa. U.S. EPA has issued CTG for control of VOC from existing sources, which is the reason for many of the proposed amendments discussed herein. In December 2022, U.S. EPA published its supplemental proposed Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources to further reduce methane and VOC emissions from the oil and natural gas sector. Finally, in November 2022, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued a proposed Waste Prevention Rule to regulate new and existing sources on federal BLM and Tribal leases to prevent waste of natural gas.

However, all of these federal rules do not fully address the universe of sources emitting pollution in this sector in California. The proposed amendments regulate methane emissions from both new and existing facilities and equipment across all land types in California unlike the current U.S. EPA rules, which only apply to methane from new, or newly modified, facilities, and the proposed BLM rule, which only applies to sources on federal BLM leases and Tribal leases. In sum, the California requirements in the proposed amendments are

necessary to achieve additional benefits for human health, public welfare, and the environment as envisioned by authorizing legislation.

An Evaluation of Inconsistency or Incompatibility with Existing State Regulations (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(3)(D)):

Many air districts with significant oil and natural gas production have rules designed to reduce criteria pollutant and criteria pollutant precursor emissions from the oil and natural gas sector in order to meet federal ambient air quality requirements. Air district rules do not cover methane-specific sources, and the proposed amendments address emissions from equipment and processes not already controlled by those existing air district rules.

During the process of developing the proposed regulatory action, CARB conducted a search of any similar regulations on this topic and concluded these regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

Disclosure Regarding the Proposed Regulation

Fiscal Impact/Local Mandate Determination Regarding the Proposed Action (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subds. (a)(5)&(6)):

The determinations of the Board's Executive Officer concerning the costs or savings incurred by public agencies and private persons and businesses in reasonable compliance with the proposed regulatory action are presented below.

Under Government Code sections 11346.5, subdivision (a)(5) and 11346.5, subdivision (a)(6), the Executive Officer has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not create costs or savings to any State agency, would not create costs or savings in federal funding to the State, would not create costs or mandate to any local agency or school district, whether or not reimbursable by the State under Government Code, title 2, division 4, part 7 (commencing with section 17500), or other nondiscretionary cost or savings to State or local agencies.

Housing Costs (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(12)):

The Executive Officer has also made the initial determination that the proposed regulatory action will not have a significant effect on housing costs.

Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Business, Including Ability to Compete (Gov. Code, §§ 11346.3, subd. (a), 11346.5, subd. (a)(7), 11346.5, subd. (a)(8)):

The Executive Officer has made an initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting

businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states, or on representative private persons.

Results of The Economic Impact Analysis/Assessment (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(10)):

A detailed assessment of the economic impacts of the proposed regulatory action can be found in Chapter VIII of the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR).

Non-Major Regulation: Statement of the Results of the Economic Impact Assessment (EIA):

(A) The creation or elimination of jobs within the State of California.

The proposed amendments are not anticipated to directly result in job creation or elimination; however, it may indirectly have an impact on job creation. It is possible that a small number of jobs may be created related to the performance of follow-up LDAR for remotely detected emission sources, development of LDAR plans, compliance demonstration of vapor recovery and control equipment, and administrative tasks.

(B) The creation of new business or the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.

The creation or elimination of businesses is not anticipated because the costs of the proposed amendments to the regulated industries are small relative to their overall output. Secondary industries may be impacted due to increased demand for scientific, technical, and consulting services. Impacts to the secondary industries are expected to be small and are not expected to result in business creation.

(C) The expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California.

As explained in the section above, the expansion of businesses is not anticipated.

- (D) The benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state's environment.

Greenhouse gas and co-pollutant emission reductions are expected from the measure that requires owners or operators to investigate remote emission plume detections and repair discovered leaks, though these reductions are unquantified. Most of the other changes in the proposed amendments will help to ensure that the Oil and Gas Methane Regulation is being followed, to provide CARB with additional data, and to improve clarity. At minimum, this includes greater assurance that systems and processes are operating in compliance through increased testing, monitoring, design analysis, recordkeeping, and reporting. These emission reductions and greater assurance that regulated parties are adhering to the requirements of the Regulation are expected to result in benefits to the health and welfare of California residents and the State's environment through decreases in air pollution and climate change forcing emissions. The proposed amendments are not expected to impact worker safety.

Benefits of the Proposed Regulation:

The objectives of the proposed regulatory action are to 1) comply with requirements for California's SIP as identified by U.S. EPA, 2) improve the clarity and effectiveness of the Oil and Gas Methane Regulation based on implementation experience, and 3) leverage the increasing availability of remote emission detection technologies. These objectives will ensure compliance with the Regulation (thereby ensuring the originally envisioned emission reductions), provide CARB with additional data, and achieve new emission reductions.

A summary of these benefits is provided. Please refer to "Objectives and Benefits", under the Informative Digest of Proposed Action and Policy Statement Overview Pursuant to Government Code section 11346.5, subdivision (a)(3) discussion on pages 6 to 7.

Business Report (Gov. Code, §§ 11346.5, subd. (a)(11); 11346.3, subd. (d)):

In accordance with Government Code sections 11346.5, subdivisions (a)(11) and 11346.3, subdivision (d), the Executive Officer finds the reporting requirements of the proposed regulatory action which apply to businesses are necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the State of California.

Cost Impacts on Representative Private Persons or Businesses (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(9)):

In developing this regulatory proposal, CARB staff evaluated the potential economic impacts on representative private persons or businesses. CARB is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

Effect on Small Business (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 4, subds. (a) and (b)):

The Executive Officer has also determined under California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 4, that the proposed regulatory action would not affect small businesses because none of the affected industries are small businesses according to California Government Code 11342.610(b). Thus, there are no costs to small businesses.

Consideration of Alternatives (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(13)):

Before taking final action on the proposed regulatory action, the Board must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the Board, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Board, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provisions of law.

State Implementation Plan Revision

If adopted by CARB, CARB plans to submit the proposed regulatory action to the U.S. EPA for approval as a revision to the California SIP required by the federal CAA. The adopted regulatory action would be submitted as a SIP revision because it amends regulations intended to reduce emissions of air pollutants in order to attain and maintain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards promulgated by U.S. EPA pursuant to the CAA.

Environmental Analysis

CARB's regulatory program, which involves the adoption, approval, amendment, or repeal of standards, rules, regulations, or plans for the protection and enhancement of the state's ambient air quality, has been certified by the California Secretary for Natural Resources under Public Resources Code section 21080.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (14 CCR 15251(d)). Public agencies with certified regulatory programs are exempt from certain CEQA requirements, including but not limited to, preparing environmental impact reports, negative declarations, and initial studies. Instead, CARB, as a lead agency, prepares a substitute environmental document (referred to as an "Environmental Analysis" or "EA") as part of the Staff Report to comply with CEQA (17 CCR 60000-60008).

CARB finalized an environmental analysis (EA) for the current Regulation in 2017 under its certified regulatory program (California Code of Regulations, title 17, sections 60000 through 60008) to comply with the requirements of CEQA (Public Resources Code section 21080.5). The EA, included in Appendix C of the ISOR, entitled Final Environmental Analysis for the Regulation for Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Facilities (2017 EA), dated March 10, 2017, determined the Regulation could result in: beneficial impacts to greenhouse gas emissions (long-term operational-related); less-than-significant impacts to aesthetics, agricultural and forest resources, air quality, biological resources (long-

term operational-related), cultural resources (long-term operational-related), energy demand, geology and soils (long-term operational-related), greenhouse gas emissions (short-term construction-related), hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality (long-term operational-related), land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems; and potentially significant and unavoidable adverse impacts during short-term construction-related activities to biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, and hydrology and water quality.

Staff has determined that no additional environmental review is required for the current proposed amendments because there are no changes that involve new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in severity of previously identified significant effects than previously identified in the prior 2017 EA. The basis for reaching this conclusion is provided in Chapter VI of the ISOR.

Special Accommodation Request

Consistent with California Government Code section 7296.2, special accommodation or language needs may be provided for any of the following:

- An interpreter to be available at the hearing;
- Documents made available in an alternate format or another language; and
- A disability-related reasonable accommodation.

To request these special accommodations or language needs, please contact the Clerks' Office at cotb@arb.ca.gov or (916) 322-5594 as soon as possible, but no later than ten business days before the scheduled Board hearing. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

Consecuente con la sección 7296.2 del Código de Gobierno de California, una acomodación especial o necesidades lingüísticas pueden ser suministradas para cualquiera de los siguientes:

- Un intérprete que esté disponible en la audiencia;
- Documentos disponibles en un formato alterno u otro idioma; y
- Una acomodación razonable relacionados con una incapacidad.

Para solicitar estas comodidades especiales o necesidades de otro idioma, por favor llame a la oficina del Consejo al cotb@arb.ca.gov o (916) 322-5594 lo más pronto posible, pero no menos de 10 días de trabajo antes del día programado para la audiencia del Consejo. TTY/TDD/Personas que necesiten este servicio pueden marcar el 711 para el Servicio de Retransmisión de Mensajes de California.

Agency Contact Persons

Inquiries concerning the substance of the proposed regulatory action may be directed to the agency representative Quinn Langfitt, Air Resource Engineer, Program Assessment Section,

at (279) 208-7487 or (designated back-up contact) Jim Nyarady, Air Resources Supervisor I, Oil and Gas Section, at (279) 208-7596.

Availability of Documents

CARB staff has prepared a Staff Report: Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) for the proposed regulatory action, which includes a summary of the economic and environmental impacts of the proposal. The report is entitled: Public Hearing to Consider the Proposed Amendments to the Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Facilities.

Copies of the ISOR and the full text of the proposed regulatory language, in underline and strikeout format to allow for comparison with the existing regulation, may be accessed on CARB's website listed below, on April 25, 2023. Please contact Bradley Bechtold, Regulations Coordinator, at Bradley.Bechtold@arb.ca.gov or (279) 208-7266 if you need physical copies of the documents. Because of current travel, facility, and staffing restrictions, the California Air Resources Board's offices have limited public access. Pursuant to Government Code section 11346.5, subdivision (b), upon request to the aforementioned Regulations Coordinator, physical copies would be obtained from the Public Information Office, California Air Resources Board, 1001 I Street, Visitors and Environmental Services Center, First Floor, Sacramento, California, 95814.

Further, the agency representative to whom nonsubstantive inquiries concerning the proposed administrative action may be directed is Bradley Bechtold, Regulations Coordinator, (279) 208-7266. The Board staff has compiled a record for this rulemaking action, which includes all the information upon which the proposal is based. This material is available for inspection upon request to the contact persons.

Hearing Procedures

The public hearing will be conducted in accordance with the California Administrative Procedure Act, Government Code, title 2, division 3, part 1, chapter 3.5 (commencing with section 11340).

Following the public hearing, the Board may take action to approve for adoption the regulatory language as originally proposed, or with non-substantial or grammatical modifications. The Board may also approve for adoption the proposed regulatory language with other modifications if the text as modified is sufficiently related to the originally proposed text that the public was adequately placed on notice and that the regulatory language as modified could result from the proposed regulatory action. If this occurs, the full regulatory text, with the modifications clearly indicated, will be made available to the public, for written comment, at least 15-days before final adoption.

The public may request a copy of the modified regulatory text from CARB's Public Information Office, Air Resources Board, 1001 I Street, Visitors and Environmental Services Center, First Floor, Sacramento, California, 95814.

Final Statement of Reasons Availability

Upon its completion, the Final Statement of Reasons (FSOR) will be available and copies may be requested from the agency contact persons in this notice, or may be accessed on CARB's website listed below.

Internet Access

This notice, the ISOR and all subsequent regulatory documents, including the FSOR, when completed, are available on CARB's website for this rulemaking at <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/rulemaking/2023/oil-and-gas-2023>

California Air Resources Board



Steven S. Cliff, Ph.D.,
Executive Officer

Date: April 11, 2023

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see [CARB's website](http://www.arb.ca.gov) (www.arb.ca.gov).