

BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109

AIR QUALITY FACT SHEET

This information is distributed to persons who may be subject to air pollution regulations, to notify them of the general requirements and the people to contact for more complete information.

WHO NEEDS AN AIR PERMIT ?

Regulation 2, Rule 1 of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) regulations requires that before any person builds, erects, installs, modifies, uses, or operates any article, machine, equipment or other contrivance, the use of which may cause, reduce or control the emission of air contaminants, such person shall first secure written authorization from the District. Also, new permits are required when permitted equipment is sold or transferred.

The District serves as permitting agency for direct sources of air pollution. Pollutants of interest include:

- Smoke
- Soot
- Dusts
- Volatile organic compounds (VOC)
- Oxides of Nitrogen
- Oxides of Sulfur
- Carbon Monoxide
- Odorous compounds
- Toxic Air Contaminants (any compound identified by the District either as a candidate toxic or as toxic air contaminant)

Operations which usually require an air quality permit include, but are not limited to:

- Dry cleaning equipment
- Gasoline station or any gasoline dispensing facility
- Solvent Cleaners (Degreasers)
- Coating of metal parts and products
- Printing and Coating operations
- Coating of plastic parts and products
- Wood furniture and Cabinet coatings
- Solid Waste disposal sites
- Auto Body shops
- Paint Spray Booths
- Storage of organic liquids
- Paving operations using cutback asphalt
- Air Pollution control equipment
- Equipment handling:

- Asbestos
- Beryllium
- Benzene

- Hexavalent Chromium
- Mercury
- Vinyl Chloride

District permit regulations apply to installations operated by either private businesses or governmental entities. The District permitting rule is defined in BAAQMD Regulation 2, and states as follows:

2-1-300 STANDARDS

- 2-1-301 Authority to Construct: Any person who, after July, 1972, builds, erects, installs, modifies, alters or replaces any article, machine, equipment or other contrivance, the use of which may cause, reduce or control the emission of air contaminants, shall first secure written authorization from the APCO in the form of an authority to construct. Routine repairs, maintenance, or cyclic maintenance that includes replacement of components with identical or equivalent equipment is not considered to be an alteration, modification or replacement for the purpose of this Section.
- 2-1-302 Permit to Operate: Before any person, as described in Section 2-1-401, uses or operates any article, machine, equipment or other contrivance, the use of which may cause, reduce or control the emission of air contaminants, such person shall first secure written authorization from the APCO in the form of a permit to operate.
- 2-1-303 Fees: Persons subject to this Regulation shall pay the fees required, as set forth in Regulation 3.
- 2-1-304 Denial, Failure to Meet Emission Limitations: The APCO shall deny an authority to construct or a permit to operate if the APCO finds that the subject of the application would not comply with the emission limitations of the District, or with applicable permit conditions, federal or California laws or regulations. Such denial shall not be based solely on type of construction or design of equipment.
- 2-1-305 Denial, Equipment Not in Conformance with Authority to Construct: The APCO shall deny a permit to operate if it is found that the subject of the application was not built substantially in conformance with the authority to construct.

WHO IS EXEMPT FROM AIR PERMIT REQUIREMENT ?

1. Homes (single family dwellings), residential buildings, hotels, motels, and restaurants.
2. Office and commercial buildings, where the only emissions are from gas-fired space heating less than 10 million BTU/hr. (associated incinerators, and oil-fired boilers or heaters would need permits.)

The attached perforated postcard, bottom half, is to be completed by the City or County official and mailed to the District.

The top portion is to be given to the Applicant with a request to fill the card out and return it to BAAQMD as soon as possible. Both of the post cards (top and bottom) are marked post paid for your convenience.

For additional information please contact:

John M. Joseph
Permit Coordinator - Permit Services Division
(415) 771-6000 Ext.138