

August 21, 2002

## ADVISORY NOTICE FOR GASOLINE DISPENSING FACILITIES

This advisory notice is intended for all persons who are required to have a Permit to Operate for a retail or a non-retail gasoline dispensing facility in Placer County. Information is provided below regarding Enhanced Vapor Recovery regulations and Air Toxics Review of new and/or existing gasoline dispensing facilities.

## **ENHANCED VAPOR RECOVERY**

On April 1, 2001, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) adopted an "Enhanced Vapor Recovery" (EVR) program that seeks to fix existing problems with service station vapor recovery systems. This EVR Program will phase in new standards over a four (4) year period to achieve a total of 25 tons per day in statewide VOC emission reductions over the performance of existing systems. By April 1, 2005, all underground tanks will need to change to the new EVR equipment.

In the June 2002 Advisory sent out with this fiscal year's billing for your permits, the District noted that any changes that require an upgrade to EVR equipment requires an Authority to Construct. Based on clarification and information obtained from the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the District has refined the criteria for applying for and obtaining an Authority to Construct for the installation of Phase I EVR equipment.

The District is classifying the installation of Phase I EVR equipment into two categories: **major modifications** and **non-major modifications**.

A **major modification** is one in which underground excavation occurs and requires the replacement of Phase I vapor recovery equipment. All major modifications require an Authority to Construct prior to the installation of Phase I EVR replacement equipment.

A **non-major modification** occurs when replacing failed components on Phase I systems. All replacement parts must be EVR-certified parts or components. However, if Phase I EVR components or parts are not compatible, pre-EVR certified parts or components may continue to be sold and used. For example, currently there are no certified Phase I EVR components for Phase I coaxial systems, thus non-EVR components can still be used in repairs. All facilities that replace Phase I equipment as a non-major modification are required to notify the District to assure that such replacement is not considered a major modification. Additionally, facilities will be required to apply for and obtain an Authority to Construct to "capture" these changes when the EVR systems must be demonstrated to be in place by April 1, 2005.

Further information on EVR can be found at the CARB website under Programs at www.arb.ca.gov

## **AIR TOXICS REVIEW**

The Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Information and Assessment Act was enacted in September 1987, with subsequent amendments. The Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Act establishes a formal air toxics emission inventory risk quantification program that Districts manage. The goal of the Air Toxics "Hot Sports" Act is to:

- ? collect emission data indicative of routine predictable releases of toxic substances to the air;
- ? identify facilities having localized impacts;
- ? evaluate health risks from exposure to the emissions;
- ? notify nearby residents of significant risks; and
- ? reduce risk below the determined level of significance.

Those facilities that pose a potentially significant health risk are required to reduce their risks, thereby reducing the near-source exposure of Californians to toxic air pollutants. Significant risks posed by facilities require public notification and if requested, districts must make health risk assessments available for public review.

The District is evaluating both proposed and existing GDFs to determine the cancer risk that is based upon annual gasoline throughput. Listed below is the specific process for proposed and existing facilities.

For proposed facilities, the District is using an initial health risk screening that is based upon the proposed annual throughput for the facility. For those facilities proposing to pump 1.5 million gallons of gasoline or more a year (i.e. those that have a cancer risk greater than 10-in-a-million), a slightly refined risk screening analysis will be conducted by utilizing distance information from the centroid of the pump islands to the nearest commercial and residential structures. If the cancer risk remains greater than 10-in-a-million following the refined risk assessment, a gasoline throughput limitation will be placed upon the facility. This limitation will be based on a gasoline throughput that will reduce the cancer risk too less than 10-in-a-million. If the applicant chooses, a detailed health risk assessment, approved by the District, may be conducted by the applicant or risk reduction measures may be implemented to reduce emissions. These steps may result in the 10-in-a-million cancer risk threshold being exceeded at a higher annual gasoline throughput limitation.

For existing GDFs, the District is reviewing the high throughput facilities that have an initial screening of greater than 10-in-a-million cancer risk. Information regarding distances from the centroid of the pump islands to the nearest commercial and residential structures is being gathered to refine the initial screening. If the cancer risk remains greater than 10-in-a-million, then the risk analysis will be submitted to the facility for review and comment before being forwarded to the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) for approval.

Following OEHHA approval of the risk assessment, Public Notification is required of all persons exposed in accordance with adopted District policies, and risk reduction through gasoline throughput curtailment or improved emission controls will be required. These requirements are likely to apply to only those facilities that have a very high annual throughput and with neighbors in close proximity.

This advisory notice and other previously issued advisories can be found on our website at www.placer.ca.gov/apcd or by calling Ms. Ann Hobbs at (530) 889-7137.