



**Initial Study and
Notice of Preparation and Determination of Scope of
Environmental Impact Report**

Date: February 23, 2010

To: Distribution List (See Attachment)

From: SJVUAPCD Permit Services Department – CEQA Division

Subject: Notice of Preparation and Determination of Scope
Draft Amendments to Rule 2301 (Emissions Reduction Credit Banking)
District CEQA No: C20090452

Respond By: March 24, 2010

This rulemaking project will adopt amendments to Rule 2301 (Emission Reduction Credit Banking). The project will seek to incorporate provisions into the rule that allow the banking of voluntary greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions. The proposed amendments are purely voluntary, and are designed to allow Valley businesses who choose to voluntarily reduce greenhouse gas emissions the ability to preserve such emission reductions for later use, including the trading and retirement of such emission reductions.

District staff prepared an Initial Study for the proposed project, which demonstrates that the project would not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Thus, the District finds that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the District, that the project could have a significant effect on the environment. However, out of abundance of caution and in an effort to avoid delay in implementation of this important rule, District staff will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project. The scope of the EIR will be limited to addressing cumulative significance on global climate change.

We are soliciting your agency's views and recommendations on the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. The project description, location, and initial assessment of potential environmental effects are presented in the attached Initial Study.

Seyed Sadredin
Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer

Northern Region
4800 Enterprise Way
Modesto, CA 95356-8718
Tel: (209) 557-6400 FAX: (209) 557-6475

Central Region (Main Office)
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726-0244
Tel: (559) 230-6000 FAX: (559) 230-6061

Southern Region
34946 Flyover Court
Bakersfield, CA 93308-9725
Tel: 661-392-5500 FAX: 661-392-5585

Because of the time limits mandated by State Law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than 30-days after receipt of this notice. Comments identifying potential impacts should be as specific as possible and should be based on supporting data. Comments should emphasize the impacts within your agency's area of expertise and/or jurisdictional responsibilities. If you have questions, please contact David McDonough by telephone at (559) 230-5920 or by e-mail at david.mcdonough@valleyair.org.

Please submit your comments to:

San Joaquin Valley APCD
ISR / CEQA Department.
Attn: David McDonough, AQS
1990 East Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726-0244

CEQA Distribution List

State Agencies

- Office of Planning & Research
- Air Resources Board
- Dept. Fish & Game Region 2 - North Central Region (San Joaquin)
- DFG - Region 4 - Central Region (all counties except San Joaquin)
- Caltrans - District 6 (Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings, Kern)
- Caltrans - District 10 (Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin)
- California Energy Commission
- California Department of Water Resources
- RWQCB - Central Valley Region 5F (Fresno, Kern, Kings, Mader, Merced, Tulare)
- RWQCB - Central Valley Region 5S (San Joaquin, Stanislaus)
- California State Board of Forestry & Fire Protection
- California State Lands Commission
- Native American Heritage Commission

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COG/CAG

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Kern COG | <input type="checkbox"/> Merced CAG | <input type="checkbox"/> Tulare CAG |
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