



State GHG Regulation for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Facilities: Implementation and Enforcement Policy Guide for Ventura County Facilities is now Available

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) recently adopted a new regulation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from crude oil and natural gas facilities. The regulation, officially known as “Greenhouse Gas Standards for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Facilities”, applies to owners or operators of equipment and components associated with crude oil and natural gas production; crude oil, condensate and produced water separation and storage; natural gas underground storage, gas gathering and boosting stations, processing plants, and transmission compressor stations.

The ARB adopted the regulation under AB-32, California's Global Warming Solutions Act, to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the above-mentioned operations. The regulation establishes emission standards that are achieved by: meeting equipment standards for various equipment and processes; leak detection and repair (LDAR) requirements; and vapor collection system and vapor control requirements.

This regulation applies to all on-shore facilities in Ventura County. However, much equipment and many components in Ventura County are exempt from portions of the regulation. Additionally, some portions of existing VCAPCD Rules may be more stringent than portions of the ARB GHG Regulation.

The District created an implementation document in order to provide guidance to staff, the public and the regulated community when implementing, enforcing or complying with the ARB GHG Regulation. A copy of the Implementation and Enforcement Policy Guide may be obtained from the VCAPCD website at: <http://www.vcapcd.org/>

A copy of the GHG Oil & Gas Regulation may be obtained from the ARB website at: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/2016/oilandgas2016/ogfro.pdf>

If you have any questions regarding crude oil and natural gas facility permits or District permitting policies, you may contact Ali Ghasemi, the APCD's Engineering Division Manager at (805) 645-1427, or by email at alig@vcapcd.org.

If you have any questions regarding the District's enforcement policies, or enforcement of this regulation at crude oil and natural gas facilities, you may contact Keith Macias, Compliance Division Manager at (805) 645-1413, or by email at keith@vcapcd.org.