



**PERMIT EXEMPTION CHANGE  
EMERGENCY AND SAFETY FLARES  
1 MMBTU/HOUR OR GREATER**

On April 12, 2011, the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District Board adopted a revision to APCD Rule 23.A.4 (Exemptions from Permit - Burning, Incineration, Smoke). Effective July 1, 2011, Rule 23.A.4 will exempt only those safety flares rated at less than one million BTU per hour used exclusively for emergency standby for the disposal of process gases in the event of unavoidable process upsets. **In other words, all flares rated at one million BTU per hour, or more, must have an APCD Permit to Operate.** Permit applications for flares no longer exempt from permit must be submitted by September 1, 2011.

Information on the APCD's permit process and permit application forms are available on the APCD's website at [www.vcapcd.org/permits.htm](http://www.vcapcd.org/permits.htm). The APCD plans on shortly having a form to assist operators in preparing their permit applications. For flares without a nameplate capacity, the APCD intends to have operators report their lease's highest monthly gas production<sup>1</sup> between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011.

Note that Unplanned Flaring Events and Planned Flaring Events are subject to Rule 54, Sulfur Compounds. Compliance with Rule 54 may include the submittal of a Planned Flaring Management Plan.

If you have questions regarding permit requirements, please contact Ken Hall at (805) 645-1401.

---

<sup>1</sup> As reported to California's Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources

## VENTURA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

### RULE 23 - EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMIT

The following operations, equipment or emission sources are exempt from the requirements of Rule 10, but must comply with emission standards and prohibitions. The owner or operator shall provide, as required by the District, calculations, usage records, emissions records and/or operational data as necessary to substantiate any exemptions that apply to the subject facility.

A. Burning, Incineration, Smoke

- 
- 
- 

4. After July 1, 2011, safety flares rated at less than one million BTU per hour used exclusively used for emergency standby for the disposal of process gases in the event of unavoidable process upsets. (Adopted 6/14/77, Revised 4/12/11)