



Ventura County APCD Rule 55, Fugitive Dust

On June 8, 2008, the Ventura County Air Pollution Control Board adopted Rule 55, Fugitive Dust. Rule 55 was adopted to comply with a state law that requires local air districts with air quality levels exceeding the state's particulate matter (PM) standards to adopt control measures to reduce PM air pollution. Ventura County exceeds the state's air quality standards for PM. The adverse health impacts from PM air pollution include asthma and other lung diseases, heart disease, and premature death. Ventura County APCD staff estimates that Rule 55 will reduce PM air pollution by 6 tons per day. Rule 55 becomes effective on October 8, 2008.

Rule 55 applies to any disturbed surface area, or man-made condition capable of generating fugitive dust, including bulk material handling, earth-moving, construction, demolition, storage piles, unpaved roads, track-out, or off-field agricultural operations.

In summary, the key provisions of Rule 55 are as follows:

- 1) Visible dust from an applicable source is prohibited or limited;
- 2) Measures must be taken to reduce or prevent track-out onto paved public roadways from an applicable source;
- 3) Track-out must be removed from roadways;
- 4) Visible dust exceeding 100 feet in length from earth-moving activities is prohibited;
- 5) Bulk material handling facilities with a monthly import or export of 2,150 cubic yards or more of bulk material must take measures to reduce or prevent track-out onto a paved public road, and;
- 6) Outbound trucks with bulk materials or soil must either be tarped, have a 6 inch freeboard below the rim of the truck bed or be wetted or treated to minimize the loss of material to wind or spillage.

A more detailed summary of Rule 55 is attached. Copies of Rule 55 may be obtained at www.vcapcd.org under Rule Development (Current Rules and Regulations).

For additional information on Rule 55, contact air pollution engineer Stan Cowen at 805/645-1408.

**Ventura County APCD Rule 55, Fugitive Dust
Summary of Rule Requirements¹
Effective October 8, 2008**

General Requirements – All Fugitive Dust Sources

Visible Dust Beyond the Property Line: No one shall cause or allow fugitive dust from any applicable source beyond the midpoint (width) of a public street or road adjacent to the property line of the emission source or beyond 50 feet from the property line if there is not an adjacent public street or road.

Opacity: No one shall cause or allow fugitive dust from any applicable source that equals or exceeds 20 percent opacity for 3 minutes or more in any one hour.

Track-Out:

No person shall allow track-out to extend 25 feet or more in length unless one of the following control measures is used:

- ✓ **Track-Out Area Improvement:** Pave or apply chemical stabilization to maintain a stabilized surface starting from the point of intersection with the public paved surface, and extend for a distance of at least 100 feet with a width to accommodate traffic ingress and egress from the site.
- ✓ **Track-Out Prevention:** Check and clean the undercarriage and wheels on all vehicles before leaving unpaved surface or install a track-out control device(s) that prevents track-out of soil onto paved public roads.
- ✓ **Track-Out Removal:** Remove track-out from pavement as soon as possible but no later than one hour after it has been deposited on the road. If a street sweeper is used to remove any track-out, only “PM10-efficient” street sweepers certified to meet South Coast AQMD Rule 1186 requirements shall be used. The make, model information and certification documentation of any sweeper used shall be made available to APCD personnel upon request.

All track-out shall be removed at the conclusion of each workday or evening shift. The use of blowers for removal of track-out is prohibited.

Specific Activity Requirements

Earth-Moving: No person shall engage in earth-moving activities in a manner that creates visible dust emissions over 100 feet in length.

Bulk Material Handling Facilities Track-Out Prevention: No person shall conduct an operation with a monthly import or export of 2,150 cubic yards or more of bulk material without

¹ This is a summary of the Rule requirements. Refer to Rule 55, Fugitive Dust, for specific requirements.

utilizing at least one of the following measures at each vehicle egress from the site to a public paved road:

- ✓ Install a pad consisting of washed gravel (one inch minimum size) maintained in a clean condition to a depth of at least six inches and extending at least 30 feet wide and at least 50 feet long.
- ✓ Pave the surface at least 100 feet long and at least 20 feet wide.
- ✓ Utilize a wheel shaker/wheel spreading device, also known as a rumble grate, consisting of raised dividers (rails, pipe, or grates) at least 24 feet long and sufficient width to allow all wheels of vehicle traffic to travel over grate to remove bulk material from tires and vehicle undercarriages before vehicles exit the site.
- ✓ Install and utilize a wheel washing system to remove bulk material from tires and vehicle undercarriages before vehicles exit the site.
- ✓ Any other control measure or device that prevents track-out onto public paved roads.

Truck Hauling: No person, including the facility or site operator, shall load or allow the loading of bulk materials or soil onto outbound trucks unless at least one of the following dust prevention measures is used:

- ✓ Use properly secured tarps or covering that covers the entire surface area of the load or use a container-type enclosure.
- ✓ Maintain a minimum of 6 inches of freeboard below the rim of the truck bed where the load touches the sides of the cargo area and insure that the peak of the load does not extend above any part of the upper edge of the cargo area.
- ✓ Water or treat the bulk material to minimize the loss of material to wind or spillage.
- ✓ Any other effective dust prevention control measures.

Exemptions

Rule 55 does not apply to the following (this is a partial list - refer to Rule 55, Section D):

- ✓ On-field agricultural operations.
- ✓ Weed abatement operations provided that: (1) Mowing, cutting or other process is used which maintains weed stubble at least three inches above the soil, or (2) Any disking or similar operation where effective dust control measures are used.
- ✓ Unpaved service roads, with a daily traffic volume of 20 vehicle trips or fewer, used by public agencies for inspection of infrastructure.

- ✓ Motion picture, television, or video production activities when dust emissions are required for visual effects. The APCD must receive notification in writing at least 72 hours in advance of any such activity and no nuisance results from such activity.
- ✓ Any paved road unless it has track-out or any publicly-owned unpaved road.
- ✓ The disturbance (i.e., disking, ripping, or scraping) of spreading ground lands in preparation for percolative groundwater recharge.

Frequently Traveled Private Unpaved Roads: The Visible Dust and Opacity requirements do not apply to dust from frequently traveled (more than 20 vehicles per day passing in either direction) unpaved roads if the road is covered with a low silt content material such as recycled road base or gravel to a minimum of four inches or implements all of the following control measures:

- ✓ Control Speed: Control speed to 15 miles per hour (mph) or less on unpaved roads through worker notification, signage, and any other necessary means.
- ✓ Restrict Access: Restrict access to private unpaved roads used by the public either through signage or physical access restrictions.
- ✓ Road Treatments: Treat unpaved and uncovered frequently traveled roads with water, mulch, or a non-toxic chemical dust suppressant that complies with all applicable air and water quality government standards. If treated, roads shall be treated in a manner that will avoid the sticking of mud to tires that will be carried onto paved public roads.

Lightly Traveled Unpaved Private Road Conditional Exemption: The Visible Dust and Opacity requirements do not apply to dust from lightly traveled unpaved roads if the operator implements both of the following control measures:

- ✓ Control Speed: Control speed to 15 mph or less on unpaved roads through worker notification, signage, and any other necessary means.
- ✓ Restrict Access: Restrict access to private unpaved roads currently used by the public either through signage or physical access restrictions.

Storage Pile Conditional Exemption: The Visible Dust and Opacity requirements do not apply to dust from storage piles if the operator has implemented at least one of the following control measures:

- ✓ Wind Sheltering: Enclose material in a three or four sided barrier equal to the height of the material.
- ✓ Watering: Apply water at a sufficient quantity and frequency to prevent dust.
- ✓ Chemical Stabilization: Apply a non-toxic dust suppressant at a sufficiently to prevent wind driven dust.

- ✓ Covering: Install and anchor tarps, plastic, or other material to prevent wind driven dust.

High Wind Exemption: The Visible Dust, Opacity and Earth-Moving requirements do not apply to dust when on-site wind speed exceeds 25 mph for at least 5 minutes in any one hour provided:

- ✓ Applicable control measures outlined in Table 1 (of the Rule) have been implemented, and
- ✓ Daily records of specific dust control measures have been maintained.

Track-out Exemption: The Track-Out requirements do not apply to on-road vehicles (trucks and passenger vehicles) associated with agricultural operations that have caused track-out due to excessively muddy conditions resulting from rainfall.

Recordkeeping Requirements

Consult Rule 55 for specific recordkeeping requirements