

BLUE FOLDER ITEM

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CITY COUNCIL MEETING June 3, 2025

- N.2 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULES 1111 AND 1121 OF THE SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT'S GOVERNING BOARD THAT WOULD BAN RESIDENTIAL GAS-FIRED FURNACES AND WATER HEATERS IN THE REGION

CONTACT: LUKE SMUDE, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER

Attached Draft Letter

Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Re: Opposition to Proposed Amendments to Rules 1111 and 1121

Mr. Nastri,

On behalf of the City of Redondo Beach, I am writing to express opposition to the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) proposed amendments to Rule 1111 (Reduction of Nitrogen Oxides from Natural-Gas-Fired, Fan-Type Central Furnaces) and Rule 1121 (Control of Nitrogen Oxides from Residential Type, Natural-Gas-Fired Water Heaters).

I am concerned that the proposed rule changes, even incorporating the proposed amendments that place sales targets and per unit mitigation fees on manufacturers, will result in an overly burdensome cost on occupants of existing residential units and would work against State affordable Housing mandates. Converting existing residential units to electric furnaces and water heaters would drive expensive service and wiring changes on tens of thousands of existing homes in Redondo Beach. The proposed mitigation fees would either drive down availability, or result in the mitigation fees being passed to the consumer who chooses to remain with natural gas fueled water heaters and furnaces.

I would, however, support efforts to phase out gas-fired appliances in new construction projects. I would also support changes that require reasonable reductions in NOx emissions in future units.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I welcome the opportunity to work with your agency to develop solutions that are both environmentally responsible and socially equitable.

Sincerely,

James A. Light
Mayor, City of Redondo Beach