

SCAQMD Information about pressure washers

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Here is some information that we have come across that pertains to pressure washer emission standards in California. Other parts of the country can expect to see similar regulations soon if they are not already in place.

Southern California AQMD Burner emission standards and rules for operation. It is mandated that businesses operating using pressure washers (heated) get a permit or operations approval by rule.

Natural gas and propane heated pressure washers must follow **Rule 1146.2** Emissions of Oxides of Nitrogen from large water heaters and small boilers and process heaters. Because of their inclusion in **Rule 219** Natural Gas and Propane heated pressure washers below 1 million Btu's do not require a written permit. Pressure washers above 2 million Btu's will need a permit. Under section (2) (b) NG and LPG machines under 2,000,000 Btu's are exempt. You must file Form 222 even if exempt and pay the filing fee.

Air Quality Regulation: All NG and LPG pressure washers must comply with the requirement of 20ppm of NOx at 3% oxygen which was amended in 2008. NG and LPG pressure washers fall under Regulation 1146.2. 1146.2 requires NOx emissions to be 20ppm or less. FYI, No pressure washer could comply with the standard of 20ppm of NOx for units above 400,000 Btu's. Until an amendment change the only option is the 9,000 therms per calendar year exemption under Rule 222.

When the requirement can't be met the equipment owner can file and pay a filing fee under **Rule 222** for \$169.49 (subject to change) and check the Note 3: for the 9,000 therms per calendar year, (you must be able to demonstrate therm usage with gas bills or, if necessary, a separate meter on the gas line to the burner). This may require a fuel meter to measure the amount of fuel used in a year.

Oil fired heated pressure washers must follow **RULE 1147 NOx Reduction from miscellaneous sources.** Oil Fired Pressure Washers will be classified under regulation 1147. There is no exemption for oil fired pressure washers. **Permitting is required.** Under regulation 1147 the end user, not the distributor or dealer, will need a

permit. If they are a large business, more than 10 employees and making more than \$500,000 per year, the cost of a permit, under Schedule A, is \$1,332.65 and under Schedule B is \$2,094.60.

Small Businesses pay 50% of applicable permit processing fees if the following definition is met: (A) the number of employees is 10 or less; and
(B) the total gross annual receipts are \$500,000 or less; or
(C) not-for-profit training center

In most cases the owner can request a permit under Schedule A and under rule 301 in most cases.

More information can be found at: www.aqmd.gov, most information about pressure washers can be found by looking at info about boilers