



TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT

October 23, 2013

Dave Edwards
Manager, Climate Change Reporting Section
California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
Sacramento CA, 95814

Filed Electronically

RE: TID Comments on September 4, 2013 Proposed Amendments to the Mandatory Reporting Regulation.

Dear Mr. Edwards:

Turlock Irrigation District ("TID") submits the following comments regarding the California Air Resources Board ("ARB") September 4th, 2013 *Proposed Amendments to the Mandatory Reporting Regulation* ("September 4th Amendments"). In these comments, TID discusses the following issues:

- (1) It is not clear how new reporting requirements for changes in criteria pollutants are necessary to fulfill the ARB's responsibilities under AB 32. These new reporting requirements are duplicative of information already collected by local air districts. If the ARB does not remove this new reporting requirement, then it should clarify that reporting changes in criteria pollutants will not be subject to verification.
- (2) TID supports the ARB's decision to not change the reporting and verification deadlines.
- (3) TID Supports the ARB's deletion in Section 95111(g)(1)(N), such that this Section no longer requires covered entities to retain meter generation data "at the time the power was directly delivered."

DISCUSSION

1. The ARB Should Clarify That New Section 95104(e) Is Not Subject To A Verification Requirement.

The ARB proposes to amend the Mandatory Reporting Regulation ("MRR") to add a new Section 95104(e), which would require covered entities to report increases in facility criteria pollutants and toxic air contaminant emissions. This new section would also

require the covered entity to provide a narrative description for the changes. This new provision would expand the scope of the MRR beyond just greenhouse gas emissions, and it is unclear how this new reporting requirement helps the ARB fulfill its responsibilities for monitoring and tracking greenhouse gas emissions under AB 32 (See Cal. Health and Safety Code Sec. 38530). The reporting and monitoring of criteria pollutants has historically been within the purview of local air districts, and any questions about compliance with air permits or changes in criteria pollutant levels are first resolved with the air districts. TID believes that if the ARB requires information on criteria pollutants to fulfill the requirements of AB 32, then it should rely on the air districts to provide this information.

TID is also concerned that a narrative explanation for an increase in criteria pollutants would be difficult to accurately report and verify. This is because changes in criteria pollutants could come from more than one factor and the narrative explanation could be subjective and open to interpretation. Thus, if the ARB nevertheless relies on its authority under AB 32 to require the reporting of criteria pollutants, it should not require verification for Section 95104(e).

2. TID Supports The ARB's Decision To Not Change Reporting And Verification Deadlines.

During the July 2013 workshops on the Cap-and-Trade and Mandatory Reporting Regulations, the ARB discussed the possibility of adjusting the timeline for allocation of allowances to October 15th and the verification deadline would be moved to August 15th. TID was concerned that moving these deadlines could make the verification and reporting process more difficult. Under the current timeframes, compiling the required data and obtaining verification services requires significant staff resources. Any delays in information collection or verification could jeopardize meeting the deadlines, which appear to be strictly enforced. Thus, TID supports the ARB's decision to not adjust the verification and reporting deadlines.

3. TID Supports The ARB's Decision To Amend Section 95111(g)(1)(N) To Remove The Requirement To Retain Generation Meter Data "At The Time The Power Was Directly Delivered."

Currently, the MRR requires covered entities to retain meter data from specified sources for purposes of verification. Based on recent discussions with ARB staff, TID understands that the ARB wants Electricity Importers to conduct an hour-by-hour comparison between the generating facility meter data and the MWh on the e-tag, and to report specified imports as the lesser of the meter or the MWhs on the e-tags for each hour. TID is concerned that such a comparison would create a significant administrative burden both for the reporting entity and the verifier. Depending on the number of imports involved and the number of e-tags generated in a single day, it could take weeks for staff to complete this comparison. In some cases, tags might need to be split, and as a result, it would be difficult for a verifier to recreate the covered entity's analysis. This additional burden would not outweigh the benefit to the ARB of having more accurate

data. In almost all cases, the metering data will be consistent with the e-tags and any minor improvement in reporting accuracy would be significantly outweighed by the administrative burden on reporting entities and their verification costs.

The ARB's proposed change to Section 95111(g)(1)(N) helps address these concerns by limiting the hour-by-hour comparison. TID therefore strongly supports the ARB's proposed change to Section 95111(g)(1)(N).

TID appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments on the September 4, 2013 revisions to the Mandatory Reporting Regulation.

Sincerely,



Dan B. Severson

Turlock Irrigation District