

Feather River Air Quality Management District

9.2 Emissions Estimation Models Pre-Approved for use in CEQA/NEPA Reviews

01/26/2016

9.2 Emissions Estimation Models Pre-Approved for Use in California Environmental Quality Act/National Environmental Policy Act Environmental Reviews

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to pre-approve models for use in estimated emissions for projects evaluated under CEQA/NEPA, and to establish a procedure for the review of non-pre-approved models. The goal of this policy is to provide fair, consistent and accurate evaluation of projects.

BACKGROUND - POLICY:

The District reviews and provides support to lead agencies in their estimation of the impact to air quality from a proposed project.

POLICY:

Effective 1/26/2016 air quality emissions estimation models pre-approved by the District for use in CEQA/NEPA environmental review include the following:

- CalEEMod <http://www.caleemod.com/>
- Roadway Construction Emissions Model <http://www.airquality.org/ceqa/index.shtml>

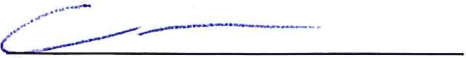
The most recent available model (non-beta) should always be used unless the District states otherwise.

If a lead agency is considering the use of other models or methodologies to calculate the air quality impact of a proposed project, the lead agency should receive prior written approval from the District. The lead agency should submit the request in writing (email or mail) to the District. The request should include the following –

- 1.) The technical benefits of using the proposed model or methodologies (beyond cost, conveyance and familiarity).
- 2.) A documentation of all the model settings and inputs proposed to be used.
- 3.) A web address in which the model is available so the District or the public may access it and replicate the analysis.

The District will review the request and provide approval/disapproval within 30 days. The District may bill the lead agency for its staff time necessary to review the request according to Regulation VII.

Failure to obtain pre-approval from the District for models and methodologies used in environmental analyses may result in inaccurate portrayal of air quality data as the District may not have enough time during the normal CEQA/NEPA public comment periods to review the air quality analysis and the methodology behind the estimation of emissions.


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1/26/16
Date: