

# Regulation II

## Rule 206 – Smoke Management



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# Rule 206 – Smoke Management

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## A. APPLICABILITY

As determined by the APCO, a *Smoke Management Plan* is required whenever the smoke from a proposed burn has the potential to impact sensitive receptors, or if the amount of material proposed to be burned exceeds the amounts identified in this Rule.

1. **Sensitive Receptors:** For purposes of this Rule, Sensitive Receptors shall be defined as in Rule 101, and shall include but not be limited to:
  - a. Class I Areas;
  - b. Hospitals;
  - c. K-12 Schools, colleges and universities;
  - d. Population centers, residential subdivisions, and commercial areas;
  - e. Residential care facilities daycare centers, group homes;
  - f. Freeways and major roadways;
  - g. Campgrounds and recreational areas; and
  - h. Any location identified by the APCO.
2. **Quantity of Material and Burn Area:** The applicant shall use District approved weight measurement and area estimation techniques to establish the quantity of material to be burned. If the quantity of material equals or exceeds one acre of material per calendar day, a *Smoke Management Plan* is required.

## B. SMOKE MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. **Plan Submittal:** A *Smoke Management Plan* shall be submitted at least thirty (30) days prior to proposed burning.
2. **Burn Authorization Required:** No burning shall occur without prior authorization pursuant to Section C, Burn Authorization, of this Rule.
3. **Smoke Management Plan Contents:** A *Smoke Management Plan* shall include the following information. Information and data shall be submitted on District forms or other APCO approved method.
  - a. Declaration of the specific purpose of the burn;
  - b. The quantity of material to be burned estimated in accordance with Section A.2 of this Rule;
  - c. Identification of the burn location using the Public Land Survey System methodology (township, range, section).
  - d. Graphical representation of the burn site(s) including but not limited to: burn location, Sensitive Receptors, map legend and orienteering symbols, compass rose, and scale:
    - i. For burn projects less than 100 acres all Sensitive Receptors within 5 miles;
    - ii. For projects greater than 100 acres all Sensitive Receptors within 20 miles.
  - e. Type and arrangement of the material to be burned;
  - f. Sufficient information to demonstrate compliance with material drying time requirements;
  - g. Burn schedule and duration;
  - h. Statement that only Approved Materials will be burned;
  - i. Specifications for monitoring and verifying prescription criteria;
  - j. Procedures for notifying the public and other agencies of the burn;
  - k. A detailed meteorological prescription that must be met in order to proceed with the burn. At a minimum, the prescription must include acceptable wind direction. Other considerations may include wind speed, temperature profile, winds aloft, humidity, temperature, actual and predicted inversions, burn day status and forecast precipitation. The plan shall identify the sources of weather information and forecasts which will be used.

- l. Contingency actions the burner will take if smoke from the burn produces unacceptable smoke impacts, which may include: stopping further ignitions, active fire suppression, rapid mop up and other appropriate techniques that are discussed with the District.
- m. Smoke mitigation actions that will be taken to minimize smoke from the burn, which may include: minimum drying times/fuel moistures, piling and/or windrowing materials, active mop up of smoldering, pretreatment of fuels and other appropriate techniques.
- n. **Burning Alternatives:** A description of the alternatives to burning which have been considered for this burn and the basis of why the alternatives were not feasible or justified.
- o. **Sensitive Receptors.** An identification of all Sensitive Receptors located within a radius of 5 miles of the burn location if the burn is 100 acres in size or less; and within a radius of 20 miles if the burn is greater than 100 acres.
- p. **Public Notification.** A description of how the potentially affected public may be notified of the burn by one or all of the following: media announcements, phone contact lists, road signs and or other appropriate techniques.
- q. **Complaint Handling Procedures.** The procedure by which all complaints about smoke impacts received by the Permittee are promptly reported to the District.
- r. **Smoke Monitoring.** The procedures to be used to monitor and track smoke transport from the burn, which may include: a smoke spotter to check on downwind sites, ambient air monitoring, aerial monitoring or other appropriate methods.

## C. BURN AUTHORIZATION

- 1. **Burn Authorization System:** The District will operate and maintain a burn authorization system. The burn authorization system will specify the amount, timing, and conditions for the burn(s) on a daily basis within the District boundaries. The District may amend individual Burn Authorizations so to minimize impacts to the health and safety of the public. Smoke shall be managed in a manner so as to minimize impacts to the health and safety of the public.
  - a. **Procedure:**
    - i. Requests for Burn Authorizations shall be submitted in either verbal or written form prior to burning during District business hours.
  - b. **Amendment and Revocation:** Once a Burn Authorization has been granted, the APCO may amend or rescind the authorization to burn if one or more of the following circumstances exist:
    - i. If meteorological conditions have changed such that adverse air quality impacts are likely to occur or have occurred as determined by the APCO;
    - ii. If burning by a fire protection agency to abate an imminent fire hazard is suddenly and unexpectedly required in the same area;
    - iii. If any information provided is determined to be false or inaccurate;
    - iv. If a wildfire event occurs; and/or
    - v. Other conditions or events that warrant modification in order to protect the public health as determined by the APCO.