Executive Order G-466

Abrasive Blasting Certification

The purpose of this advisory is to inform local air pollution control districts and other interested persons of Executive Order G-466 which list abrasives currently certified for use during dry unconfined blasting.

The Air Resources Board (ARB) Compliance Division staff certified abrasive sandblasting material in accordance with Section 92520 of Subchapter 6, Title 17, California Code of Regulations. The ARB Executive Order G-466 is an extension of the current ARB Executive Order G-441 which is due to expire on May 20, 1989. Certification of the abrasives is now extended until August 31, 1989, after which a new list of abrasives will be issued.

Legal Requirements

The Health and Safety Code authorizes the ARB to adopt air pollution standards for sandblasting operations. Under Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations, the ARB is required to certify abrasives used during dry unconfined blasting as complying with specific performance standards. The standards require that the abrasives, before blasting, shall not contain more than 1 percent by weight material passing a #70 U.S. Standard sieve; after blasting, the abrasives shall not contain more than 1.8 percent by weight material 5 microns or smaller.

Enforcement Policy

Compliance with these certification requirements helps to reduce fine particulate matter emitted to the atmosphere during dry unconfined blasting. Since the control of these emissions can have a substantial impact on local air quality, uncertified abrasives used for dry unconfined blasting are subject to the more stringent Ringelmann No. 1 visible emission standard. Certified abrasives, however, are subject to the Ringelmann No. 2 visible emission standard.

If you have any inquiries regarding Executive Order G-466, the test method evaluation, or the certification process, please contact Gary Zimmerman, Manager of the Source Testing Section at (916) 322-2886.

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