

## How can I get email notifications?

The County has established a “list-server” which is accessible at the District’s website. This feature allows you to sign up for email updates from the District on any or all of five air quality topics. One of the five listed topics is “Title V Permit Program.”

To sign up for email or text updates via the list-server, go to [www.sdapcd.org](http://www.sdapcd.org). Near the center right of the main page there is a green and white image of an envelop and link to allow sign up. Click on this link and you will then be prompted to enter an email address or cell#. After entering your email or cell# and clicking “submit,” you will see a list with check boxes. Beneath the heading “Air Quality” there are several topics. You may click the check box of the “Title V Permit Program” box and/or any of the items that interest you.

Once you have checked the boxes beside the topics for which you want to receive email updates, click “submit” at the bottom of the list page. You will initially receive an email confirming your sign-up and those topics you selected. You can change your selections anytime by following these same steps.



## What are the benefits?

There are three principal benefits of the Title V program:

- Increased accountability to the public. The public is invited to comment on Title V permits, and all public comments are considered before permits are issued. Once issued, the permits are considered to be enforceable by the public.
- Enhanced monitoring, record-keeping and reporting requirements. These requirements promote ongoing internal vigilance by industry operators and ensure that facilities are subject to consistent oversight by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- Emissions reductions. Some potential Title V sources have reduced emissions to get below the threshold pollution levels so they will not be required to obtain these federal permits.

## Where can I get more information?

For more information on Title V, contact the District at (858) 586-2600 or visit our website at [www.sdapcd.org](http://www.sdapcd.org).

Additional information can also be found at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) and [www.arb.ca.gov](http://www.arb.ca.gov).



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# Title V Permits



## What is Title V?

Title V refers to a section of the federal Clean Air Act that was added by the 1990 Amendments to the Act. Title V introduced a permitting program for large (i.e., “major”) sources of air pollutants. The purpose of Title V is to incorporate all applicable requirements into a single document.

## What is a Title V permit?

A Title V permit grants a source permission to operate. It differs from other air quality permits in that the Title V permit includes the requirements of all regulations that pertain to the facility. This can have significant implications for a large industrial facility which could be subject to a large number of requirements when considering all of its processes and emission sources.

The Title V permit includes all air pollution requirements that apply to the source, including emissions limits and monitoring, record keeping, and reporting requirements. It also requires that the source report its compliance status with respect to permit conditions to the agency that issued the permit.

Most permits are issued by the air district that governs the area in which the facility is located. Locally, the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) issues Title V permits.

## Who must get a permit?

Facilities fall under the Title V program based on their potential to produce certain levels of air pollution, given their equipment and processes.

Generally, Title V permits are required for stationary sources that emit 100 tons or more per year of any “criteria” pollutant, or 10 tons or more per year of any federal toxic air pollutant, or 25 tons or more per year of any combination of federal toxic air pollutants.

In San Diego, examples of businesses with Title V permits are power plants, ship yards, large manufacturing operations, the military bases and even hospitals.

## What does a permit cost?

For Title V permits, the federal Clean Air Act requires permitting authorities to collect permit fees that are sufficient to cover their program costs. Fees are structured so that sources that emit more air pollution pay more for their Title V permits than sources that emit less.



*Major sources in San Diego such as shipyards*

## How can I get involved?

Citizens like you can take action to ensure cleaner air in your community. Public participation is one of the most important features of the Title V permitting process.

## Before a permit is issued

Most proposed Title V permits require a 30 day public comment period during which any member of the public may review the permit and comment on it. Comments should be made in writing to the APCD.

Members of the public may also request that the APCD hold a public hearing for discussion of the permitting issues. Comments may be given verbally at the public hearing.

Comments are most effective when they make specific suggestions for changes to the permit, explain why these changes are justified and, if appropriate, refer to applicable regulations.

## After a permit is issued

Facilities are required to submit an annual compliance certification and a compliance verification report every six months. The public may review these to make sure facilities are meeting their permit requirements.

If citizens are concerned that the source is not complying with the Title V permit, their first option is to call on the APCD to enforce the permit. If they’re still not satisfied, they can ask the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to take action against the polluter, and in some cases, may be able to take legal action against the source owner or operator.

Monitoring and emissions data are also available to the public on the District’s website at [www.sdapcd.org](http://www.sdapcd.org).