The Pima County Board of Supervisors (BOS) as the governing body for the Pima County Air Quality Control District adopts ordinances which are codified in the Pima County Code (PCC). The Pima County Air Quality Control District operates within the Pima County Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ). PDEQ periodically proposes updates to PCC through the BOS. This Notice of Proposed Rulemaking proposes the addition of a new section to PCC Title 17, Chapter 17.16, Section 17.16.125- Inactive Mineral Tailings Impoundment and Slag Storage Area within the Ajo PM$_{10}$ Planning Area. The intention of this rulemaking is to meet State Implementation Plan (SIP) requirements to provide permanence and enforceability for control measures that have already been implemented. Under this new section, owners or operators are subject to implement and maintain required Particulate Matter (PM$_{10}$) control measures on applicable sources to meet visible emissions and stabilization requirements, in order to ensure continued Particulate Matter emissions reductions in the Ajo PM$_{10}$ Planning Area. The inactive tailings and slag storage area must be controlled to 20 percent opacity for fugitive emissions on the property. For both the tailings and slag areas, owners or operators must also install and maintain signs and physical barriers to prevent trespass and re-disturbance on the property. The rule text and other related information is available at the PDEQ office, and on the PDEQ website (noted below), or you may request a copy by contacting our department.

A public hearing before the Pima County Board of Supervisors will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at, or after, 9:00 a.m. in the Board Hearing Room, located at 130 W. Congress, 1st floor, Tucson, Arizona.

Comments pertaining to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking may be submitted at the above noticed public hearing.

For additional information please contact Sarah Reitmeyer, Regulatory Program Manager, at (520) 724-7437 or visit PDEQ’s website at http://webcms.pima.gov/government/environmental_quality/

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