25200.15. (a) The owner or operator of a facility that has a hazardous waste facilities permit issued pursuant to Section 25200 or 25201.6 may change facility structures or equipment without modifying the facility's hazardous waste facilities permit, if either of the following apply:

(1) The change to structures or equipment is not within a permitted unit.

(2) Both of the following apply to the change to the structures or equipment:

(A) The change to structures or equipment is within the boundary of a permitted unit, and the structure or equipment is certified by the owner or operator not to be actively related to the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste, or the secondary containment of those hazardous wastes.

(B) The department, within 30 days from the date of receipt of notice from the owner or operator, does not determine any of the following:

(i) The change is related to the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste or the secondary containment of those hazardous wastes.

(ii) The change may otherwise significantly increase risks to human health and safety or the environment related to the management of the hazardous wastes.

(iii) The regulations adopted pursuant to the federal act require a permit modification for the change.

(b) (1) To the extent consistent with the federal act, and the regulations adopted pursuant to the federal act, the owner or operator of a facility that has a hazardous waste facilities permit issued pursuant to Section 25200 or 25201.6 may change the facility structure or equipment utilizing the Class 1* permit modification, specified in Chapter 20 (commencing with Section 66270.1) of Division 4.5 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, as adopted by the department, if the department determines that all of the following apply:

(A) The change to the structure or equipment is necessary to comply with requirements or the request of a state or federal agency or an air quality management district or air pollution control district.

(B) The change to the structure or equipment will decrease one or more risks, and will not result in any increased risks to human health and safety or the environment related to the
management of the hazardous wastes in the structure or equipment.

(C) The owner or operator has submitted sufficient information for the department to make the determinations required by subparagraphs (A) and (B) to comply with the requirements of Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code, the California Environmental Quality Act.

(2) A change to a facility structure or equipment that is authorized by this subdivision may not result in an increase in the permitted capacity of a hazardous waste management unit affected by the change.

(3) This subdivision does not apply to changes for which no permit modification is required pursuant to subdivision (a) and the regulations adopted to implement that subdivision.

(4) This subdivision does not apply to changes classified as Class 1 or Class 1* under the department's regulations pursuant to Chapter 20 (commencing with Section 66270.1) of Division 4.5 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.

(5) The owner or operator of a facility applying for a "Class 1* permit modification" pursuant to this subdivision shall enter into a written agreement with the department pursuant to which that person shall reimburse the department, pursuant to Article 9.2 (commencing with Section 25206.1), for the costs incurred by the department in processing the application.

(c) (1) To the extent consistent with the federal act, the owner or operator of a facility operating under a hazardous waste facilities permit issued pursuant to Section 25200 or 25201.6 may make a Class 1 permit modification for minor equipment replacement or upgrade with functionally equivalent components of equipment such as pipes, valves, pumps, conveyors, controls, or other similar equipment, as specified in Section (A)(3) of Appendix I of Chapter 20 (commencing with Section 66270.1) of Division 4.5 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, without providing prior notification as long as the modification is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act, Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code, and if the owner or operator complies with both of the following conditions:

(A) The owner or operator notifies the department concerning the replacement or upgrade by certified mail or other means that establish proof of delivery within seven calendar days after the change is commenced. The notice shall specify the replacement or upgrade being made to the equipment referenced in the permit and shall explain why the replacement or upgrade is necessary.
(B) Except as otherwise specified in this subdivision, the owner or operator complies with the requirements of Chapter 20 (commencing with Section 66270.1) and Chapter 21 (commencing with Section 66271.1) of Division 4.5 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, as adopted by the department, that are applicable to a Class 1 modification.

(2) Misapplication of the Class 1 modification allowed under this subdivision is subject to enforcement by the department under this chapter.

(3) This subdivision shall remain in effect until the time when the department amends its regulations to provide for replacement or upgrade of equipment without prior notification, subject to those conditions and limitations determined to be necessary by the department.

(d) Any determination made pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, any determination by the department regarding the classification of a permit modification, may be appealed by the owner or operator in the manner provided for appeal of a permit determination pursuant to the regulations adopted by the department.