

Proposed Rulemaking Announcement

Adoption of the Oakridge PM_{2.5} Attainment Plan

Background

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) are proposing a joint rulemaking to the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) to adopt an air quality attainment plan and associated rule amendments for the non-attainment area surrounding the cities of Oakridge and Westfir designed to meet compliance with the federal public health standards for particulate matter 2.5 microns and less (PM_{2.5}). High concentrations of PM_{2.5} inhaled by an individual can cause unwanted health effects especially in children, the elderly, or those with lung or heart disease.

A mandatory residential wood combustion curtailment program implemented by LRAPA has been the primary mechanism to help the Oakridge area make progress toward meeting the PM_{2.5} health standard. This program will continue to be implemented with strengthened strategies under the PM_{2.5} attainment plan to ensure the national health standard is met. Under this plan, any new industrial emissions will be controlled through existing New Source Review regulations, by requiring the Lowest Achievable Emission Rate (LAER). All other requirements on sources will remain the same.

Why are the rule changes needed?

The Oakridge area does not meet PM_{2.5} 24-hour national health standard and must implement strategies to reduce 24-hour PM_{2.5} levels below the national health standard.

What is the objective of this rulemaking?

The adoption and rulemaking action will adopt a PM_{2.5} plan that will return the Oakridge area back to compliance with the 2006 24-hour standard by 2014 as required by federal law. Oakridge does not violate the annual PM_{2.5} standard. This attainment plan fulfills federal requirements regarding EPA designated nonattainment areas.

Who may be affected?

No significant impact or costs on the general public is expected from this rulemaking. The existing programs to regulate home wood heating will continue with no changes.

The only potential impact on large businesses would be for new industrial sources that are subject

to the existing New Source Review requirements. Non-attainment areas have more stringent and costly emission control requirements for new and modified industrial sources due to the requirements of LAER. LAER requires sources to install the most effective control equipment without regard to cost. Otherwise, there are no rule changes for industrial sources being proposed.

How was this proposal developed?

This rulemaking is based on the federal Clean Air Act requirements to meet national ambient air quality standards to protect public health. This PM_{2.5} attainment plan was developed following EPA guidelines and requirements to ensure the Oakridge area can meet the PM_{2.5} health standard in the future.

Rulemaking documents

The following documents and information are available on DEQ's Rule Registry located at www.deq.state.or.us/regulations/proposedrules.htm.

- Proposed PM_{2.5} Attainment Plan
- Proposed Rule changes
- Statement of Need and Fiscal Impact
- Land Use Evaluation Statement
- Relationship to Federal Requirements

See also LRAPA's website at: www.lrapa.org/.

How to Comment

Comments on the proposed rulemaking may be submitted to LRAPA in writing via mail, fax or email any time prior to the comment deadline of 12:15 p.m. on September 20, 2012, or at the public hearing noted below. It is not necessary to attend the hearing in order to comment. Written comments received prior to the deadline are treated equally with oral comments.

Comments may be mailed to Robbye Lanier, LRAPA, 1010 Main Street, Springfield, OR 97477, or faxed to 541-726-1205, or emailed to robbye@lrapa.org. For further information, call 541-736-1056, extension 214 or toll-free in Oregon at 1-877-285-7272.

Further information can be obtained by calling Brian Finneran at Oregon DEQ in Portland at 503-229-6278, toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011 extension 6278, or by email to Finneran.Brian@deq.state.or.us.



State of Oregon
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Quality

Air Quality Division
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Contact: Brian Finneran
Finneran.Brian@deq.state.o
r.us www.oregon.gov/DEQ/

DEQ and the EQC have the statutory authority to address this issue under ORS 468.020, 468A.025. These rules implement ORS 468A.025, 468A.035



(Note: email comments on the proposed rulemaking will be acknowledged immediately. Comments and attachments are limited to 10 MB. If you do not receive an automatic response, or your comments and attachments will exceed this limit, please contact LRAPA staff listed above. If there is a delay between servers, emails may not be received before the deadline.)

Public hearing

LRAPA will hold a public hearing at the time and location noted below. The hearing will begin with a brief overview of the proposed rule changes, followed by the opportunity for members of the public to provide oral and written comment.

September 20, 2012, 12:15 p.m.
LRAPA Conference Room
1010 Main St., Springfield, OR 97477

Comment deadline is September 20, 2012. Public comment is due by 12:15 p.m., September 20, 2012, or can be provided at the above hearing. Comments cannot be considered after the comment deadline.

How will rules be adopted?

The LRAPA Board of Directors will consider adoption at the above September 20 hearing. If adopted, DEQ will submit to the EQC for approval at their meeting on December 6, 2012. If approved, DEQ will submit to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a revision to the State Implementation Plan under OAR 340-200-0040.

Accessibility information

LRAPA is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Please notify LRAPA of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in large print, Braille or another format. To make these arrangements, contact Robbye Lanier at LRAPA at 541-736-1056, extension 214 or toll-free in Oregon at 1-877-285-7272, or email robbye@lrapa.org.