

**Submit written comments**

**Online**

[Comment form](http://www.oregon.gov/deq/RulesandRegulations/Pages/comments/ACDPfee.aspx)

By mail

Oregon DEQ

Attn: Brian Finneran

811 SW Sixth Avenue

Portland, OR 97204

By fax: 503-229-5675

Attn: Brian Finneran

At hearing

See Attend a hearing on

page 2 of this document.

Comment deadline:

Friday, January 23, 2015

by 5 p.m.

# Invitation to Comment

**Grants Pass PM10 and Carbon Monoxide Limited Maintenance Plans**

DEQ invites input on the proposed adoption of Limited Maintenance Plans for Particulate Matter and Carbon Monoxide for the Grants Pass area.

DEQ proposal

DEQ is seeking comments on adoption of two Limited Maintenance Plans for the Grants Pass area – one for Particulate Matter 10 microns and smaller (PM10) and one for Carbon Monoxide (CO). DEQ is proposing to adopt these plans into the Oregon Clean Air Act State Implementation Plan, under in OAR 340-200-0040. These plans are designed to maintain compliance with the PM10 and CO National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for the next 10 years.

Rulemaking goal

The goal of this rulemaking is to adopt two limited maintenance plans for the Grants Pass area. Historically, Grants Pass violated the PM10 and CO health standards and was classified as a “nonattainment area” for both air pollutants. Under the Clean Air Act, communities that exceed health standards must adopt plans to achieve and maintain good air quality. DEQ has the option of adopting simplified “limited” maintenance plans for Grants Pass that require no new measures, only the continuation of the existing ones. These plans would be the second maintenance plans for Grants Pass, and ensure compliance through 2025.

Under the federal Clean Air Act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets air quality standards to protect public health for six common air pollutants. The PM10 standard (particulate matter 10 microns in size or less) was established at 150 micrograms per cubic meter (μg/m3) for a 24-hour average and at 50 μg/m3 for an annual average. The CO standard was established at 35 parts per million (ppm) for a 1-hour average, and 9 ppm for an 8-hour average.

In the mid to late 1980’s, Grants Pass exceeded the 24-hour PM10 standard and the 8-hour CO standard. The area was designated as a nonattainment area for CO in 1985 and for PM10 in 1990. In response, DEQ adopted attainment plans with various PM10 and CO control measures to reduce pollution levels within the urban growth boundary in order to meet these standards. This resulted in significant improvements in air quality, and Grants Pass was reclassified to attainment for CO in 2000 and PM10 in 2002. The first maintenance plans were adopted at that time.

Over the last 25 years, PM10 and CO levels have steadily declined, and Grants Pass is very unlikely to exceed these standards again. EPA provides an option for States to adopt limited maintenance plans for low risk areas like Grants Pass. If adopted, this second set of maintenance plans will be the final maintenance plans required under the federal Clean Air Act.

DEQ requests public comment on whether to consider other options for achieving the rules’ substantive goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business. DEQ’s Statement of Fiscal and Economic Impact is in the Notice online at <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/RulesandRegulations/Pages/proposedrule.aspx>. As noted in the fiscal impact summary, there is little to no impact under both proposed limited maintenance plans.

Who does this affect?

The proposed rulemaking updates existing maintenance plans that are designed to protect public health in Grants Pass, by continuing to provide good air quality over the next 10 years. To qualify for EPA’s limited maintenance plan option, existing control measures from the first maintenance plan must be continued in the second maintenance plan.

The exception to this is the transportation conformity requirements which apply to new transportation projects. On-road motor vehicles are a major source of CO emissions in Grants Pass, and a smaller but significant source of PM10. There have been few new transportation projects in Grants Pass, and limited growth in these emissions is expected. As a result, under the limited maintenance plan option, the transportation conformity requirements can be met without the need for a motor vehicle emissions budget (or cap) or conducting a regional emissions analysis, which avoids the cost of conducting computer modeling.

The PM10 control strategies that will be continued under the PM10 limited maintenance plan include a residential woodstove curtailment program, ban on the use of uncertified woodstoves, BACT controls for large new or expanding industrial sources, outdoor open burning restrictions, and prescribed forestry burning smoke management protection.

The CO control strategies that will be continued under the CO limited maintenance plan include the federal emission standards for new motor vehicles. Since the majority of CO emissions in Grants Pass are from this source, this has been the most effective measure in reducing CO levels. Other continuing control strategies include BACT controls for large new or expanding industrial CO sources, and the residential woodstove curtailment program, which also reduces CO in addition to PM10.

Both plans will continue to demonstrate compliance with health standards. Direct monitoring of PM10 and CO in Grants Pass was discontinued (with EPA approval) in 2008 and 2005 respectively, due to very low levels and budget considerations. Under the proposed PM10 limited maintenance plan, the existing PM2.5 monitor in Grants Pass will be used to calculate PM10 levels and verify continued attainment with the standard. For CO, no other direct monitoring exists in Grants Pass, so continued attainment will be determine by DEQ tracking CO emission trends (mostly from on-road mobile sources).

Finally, both plans must have contingency measures that would be implemented to prevent or correct any violation of the health standard. To prevent a violation, both plans identify a process by which direct PM10 and CO monitoring would be reestablished. Should a violation of the standard occur while conducting this monitoring, both plans identify a range of corrective actions to be taken by DEQ.

Attend a hearing

DEQ invites you to attend the public hearing listed below. The presiding officer will provide a brief overview of the proposal before inviting your spoken or written comment.

Grants Pass

Josephine County Courthouse

500 NW 6th St.

Room 157

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2015

**More information**

The Rule Proposal and Notice for this rulemaking are on DEQ’s website: <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/RulesandRegulations/Pages/proposedrule.aspx>

Comment deadline

To consider comments on the proposed rules, DEQ must receive the comment by

Friday, January 23, 2015 at 5 p.m.

Sign up for rulemaking notices

Get email updates about future DEQ proposed rulemaking by signing up at: <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/RulesandRegulations/Pages/proposedrule.aspx>.

**What has happened so far?**

Documents used to develop proposal

DEQ relied on a number of documents to develop this proposal. A complete list of these documents is in the notice at

<http://www.oregon.gov/deq/RulesandRegulations/Pages/proposedrule.aspx>

**What will happen next?**

DEQ will prepare a written response to each comment or summary of similar comments received by the comment deadline. DEQ may modify the rule proposal based on the comments.

Comments or summary of comments and responses will become part of the DEQ staff report that will go to the Oregon [Environmental Quality Commission](http://www.oregon.gov/DEQ/EQC/index.shtml) for final decision.

Present proposal to the EQC

The Environmental Quality Commission is the board that reviews all proposed changes to division 340 of the Oregon Administrative Rules. The commission adopts, rejects, or adopts with changes, any proposed rule.

DEQ plans to take the final proposal including any modifications made in response to public comments to the commission for decision at the March 2015 meeting.

Accessibility information

You may review copies of all website pages and documents referenced in this announcement at:

DEQ Headquarters, Executive Building

Air Quality Program, 11th Floor

811 SW Sixth Avenue

Portland, OR 97204

To schedule a review, call Brian Finneran at 503-229-6278.

Please notify DEQ of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in large print, Braille or another format. To make these arrangements, contact DEQ at 503-229-5696, Portland, or call toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011; fax to 503-229-6762. You may also email to

deqinfo@deq.state.or.us. Hearing-impaired persons may call 711.