Air Quality Rule Changes and Updates

# Invitation to Comment

DEQ invites input on proposed permanent rule amendments, adoption and repeal to chapter 340 of the Oregon Administrative Rules.

DEQ proposal

DEQ proposes the following changes to OAR 340 division numbers 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 209, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 225, 226, 228, 232, 234, 236, 240, 242, 244, 246, 262, 264, and 268. See far right column to learn how to comment on this proposal.

The rulemaking proposal would revise air quality permitting, Heat Smart, and gasoline dispensing facility rules including:

* Clarify and update air quality rules
* Update particulate matter emission standards
* Change permitting requirements for emergency generators and small natural gas or oil-fired equipment
* Establish two new state air quality area designations (“sustainment” and “reattainment”) to help areas avoid and more quickly end a federal nonattainment designation
* Identify Lakeview as a state sustainment area while retaining its federal attainment designation
* Change the pre-construction permitting program (New Source Review)
* Provide more flexibility for public hearings and meetings
* Re-establish woodstove replacement program (Heat Smart) exemption for small commercial solid fuel boilers that the permitting program regulates
* Remove annual reporting requirements for small gasoline dispensing facilities

Rulemaking goal

The goal of this rulemaking is to ensure DEQ’s air quality permitting programs are efficient and effective. This rulemaking will modify DEQ rules to ensure Oregon regulations are up to date and that they address air quality problems.

DEQ expects to see improved air quality and a reduction in the number of business that have difficult interpreting the rules.

DEQ requests public comment on whether to consider other options for achieving these rule's 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/2014/AQPerm.aspx>.

DEQ requests public comment on the ability of owners and operators of equipment to meet the proposed particulate standards, specifically the proposed grain loading and opacity standards.

DEQ also requests public comment on whether Lane Regional Air Protection Agency rules are as stringent as DEQ’s proposed rules.

Who does this affect?

Parties affected by this proposal include:

* All businesses currently holding air quality permits;
* Businesses required to submit construction approval notices
* Businesses that sell small solid fuel boilers
* Businesses that dispense less than 10,000 gallons of gasoline a month

Attend a hearing

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

Portland, Bend and Medford

6 p.m., July 16, 2014

Portland

DEQ Headquarters Building, Room EQC A on the 10th Floor, 811 SW Sixth Ave., Portland, OR, 97204

Bend

DEQ - Bend Regional Office

Conference Room

475 NE Bellevue Dr., Suite 110

Bend, OR 97701

**Medford**

DEQ - Medford Regional Office

Conference Room

221 Stewart Ave., Suite 201

Medford, OR 97501

Presiding Officer for all hearings will be George Davis. Davis will be located at the hearing in Portland and preside the hearings in Bend and Medford by teleconference.

**More information**

The Rule Proposal and Notice for this rulemaking are on DEQ’s website: <http://www.deq.state.or.us/regulations/proposedrules.htm>

Comment deadline

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

5 p.m. Thursday, July 31, 2014. DEQ is providing a 45-day comment period because of the size of this rulemaking.

Sign up for rulemaking notices

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

**What has happened so far?**

Adivosry committee and stakeholder meetings

DEQ held stakeholder meetings around the state in Aug. 2013 to receive input and expertise on ideas for preliminary rules. DEQ held a fiscal advisory committee meeting Jan. 23, 2014 to gather recommendations on the adequacy of the draft fiscal impact statement. DEQ also sought input on the fiscal impact statement from its standing Small Business Compliance Advisory Panel. DEQ incorporated information from industry experts and other stakeholders into the proposed rules.

Documents used to develop proposal

DEQ relied on Oregon Administrative Rules and EPA rules and guidance when considering the need for the proposed rule and to prepare the rulemaking documents.

What will happen next?

We will review all comments

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 completed draft proposal, including any modifications made in response to public comment, to the commission for final decision at its January 2015 meeting.

If EQC approves the proposed rules and incorporating the amendments into the Oregon Clean Air Act State Implementation Plan under OAR 340-200-0040, DEQ will submit the rules to EPA for approval as a revision to the plan as required by the Clean Air Act.

Accessibility information

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

Oregon DEQ Headquarters

811 SW Sixth Ave.

Portland, OR 97204

To schedule a review, call Jill Inahara at 503-229-5001. In Lane County, contact Max Hueftle at 541-736-1056 or max@lrapa.org.

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 Communications and Outreach at 503-229-5696 or call toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011; fax to 503-229-6762; or email to

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