June 16, 2014

Senator Whitsett

900 Court St. NE, S-111

Salem, Oregon 97301

The Honorable Senator Whitsett:

Thank you for meeting with DEQ and OHA on March 5, 2014 regarding air quality in Klamath Falls, Lakeview and Prineville. During our discussion, you expressed interest in DEQ’s upcoming rule-making, which includes provisions for industries located in areas with air quality challenges. I wanted to let you know that the draft rules have been drafted and have been released for public comment. Information on how and where to comment are included at the bottom of this letter.

We spoke briefly about the rule proposal to create two new air quality designation areas, sustainment and reattainment. Changes concerning these two news designations can be found in the proposed rules under OAR 340-204-0300 through 340-204-0320. These proposed changes will provide flexibility for industrial sources in poor air quality areas to build and grow, while protecting and potentially improving air quality. The changes could also improve future economic development in both the Town of Lakeview and the City of Klamath Falls.

The enclosed rulemaking announcement includes a link to DEQ’s rulemaking website. The website includes all public notice documents and information on how to submit comments. The deadline for public comment is July 31. If you have questions or comments, please call me at (541) 633-2006.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Bailey

Eastern Region Air Quality Manager

ODEQ-Bend

Enclosure

cc:     Greg Aldrich, DEQ

 Uri Papish, DEQ

 Palmer Mason, DEQ