



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Air Quality Rule Changes and Updates



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Rulemaking Goals

- Make rules clearer
- Update rules
- Address air quality problems



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Rulemaking Schedule

- Stakeholder meetings: August
- Public Notice: April - May
- Public Hearing: May
- Proposed EQC Adoption: Oct. or Dec. 2014



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Overview

- Rule clean-up and update
- Update particulate matter (PM) standards
- Permitting small sources
- New Source Review (NSR)



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Rule Clean-Up & Update

Background

- Outdated rules are unclear
- EPA has adopted new rules

Recommendation

- Clarify where necessary
- Repeal unnecessary rules



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Update PM Standards

Background

- Potential exceedances of PM_{2.5} ambient standards
- Pre-1970 sources have higher PM standards

Recommendation

- Reduce opacity limit from 40% to 20%
- Reduce PM concentrations from 0.2 to 0.15 gr/dscf
- Provide additional time for compliance with lower limits



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Permitting Small Sources

Background

- Small sources considered “categorically insignificant activities”
- New standards for emergency generators
- Aggregate emissions are significant

Recommendation

- Require construction approval or permit



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New Source Review (NSR)

Background

- Prevent new nonattainment areas
- Improve air quality in existing nonattainment areas
- EPA redesignation is slow
- Construction ban in certain areas

Recommendation

- Establish two new transitional areas: sustainment and reattainment
- Provide incentives to reduce emissions from problem sources
- Change definition of major source: Separate Major NSR from non-Major NSR



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Other Proposed Rule Changes

- Provide more flexibility for public hearings and meetings
- Re-establish Heat Smart exemption for small commercial solid fuel boilers
- Remove annual reporting requirements for small gas stations



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Questions?