DEQ will hold a series of public information meetings in August to solicit input on a variety of potential air quality rule changes. Some of the more significant changes deal with pre-construction approvals and will directly affect some medium and large businesses The changes also include minor revisions that will clarify language and definitions, fix spelling errors and remove obsolete definitions.

 DEQ relies on several types of standards when issuing air quality permits. One standard is referred to as a visual standard, which relies on the density – or opacity – of a plume. A second standard for particulate matter -- dust, dirt, chemicals, etc. -- involves more quantifiable emission limits. The proposed rulemaking changes will affect both the visual and particulate matter standards and in general will require industries to meet higher air quality standards than in the past.

 The proposed changes also address other air quality issues, including pollution caused by emergency generators and the purchase of emission offsets.

After answering questions and getting input at the August meetings, DEQ will draft the proposed rule language and hold formal public hearings, which are scheduled to take place in November. The proposed rules will then go before the Environmental Quality Commission for consideration and adoption.

For more information about DEQ’s upcoming rulemaking or to be added to the interested parties list if you did not receive this notice directly, contact Jill Inahara at 503-229-5001 or inahara.jill@deq.state.or.us

**Meeting Dates and Information**

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| **Aug. 8, 2013**10 a.m.-12 noon & 1–2 p.m. if neededDEQ Northwest Region2020 SW 4th Ave., suite 400Conference Room A/BPortland, OR 97201 | **Aug. 9, 2013**10 a.m.-12 noon & 1–2 p.m. if neededPendleton State Office Building700 SE Emigrant Ave. Blue Mountain Conference RoomPendleton, OR 97801 |
| **Aug. 12, 2013**10 a.m.-12 noon & 1–2 p.m. if neededDEQ Eugene Office 165 East 7th Ave., Suite 100Willamette Conference RoomEugene, OR 97401 | **Aug. 13, 2013**10 a.m.-12 noon & 1–2 p.m. if needed DEQ Medford Office 221 Stewart Ave., Suite 201Large Conference RoomMedford, OR 97501 |