From:	DEQ Online Subscriptions
To:	GOLDSTEIN Meyer
Subject:	EQC postpones action, opens 14-day written public comment period for proposed temporary rules
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Environmental Quality Commission extends public comment period on new temporary rules to address air toxics in Portland

Citizens request more time to consider rules

Today the Environmental Quality Commission met to consider adopting temporary rules to reduce metals emissions from small colored art glass manufacturing facilities in Portland. These facilities have historically used cadmium, arsenic, chromium, and other metals in their production. Currently there are no state or federal rules that limit levels of metal emissions from these facilities, and these temporary rules would address that regulatory gap.

The DEQ hearing room was packed with citizens. Fifty spoke to the commission. The majority asked for more time to consider the rules and offer comment. After the comment period closed, commissioners agreed to extend the written public comment period to March 30 and then take up the matter again at the commission's April 20 and 21 meeting in Portland. At that time, DEQ staff will report on public comment and provide additional information.

The proposed rules would have addressed a regulatory gap by setting limits for smaller art glass manufacturers by prohibiting the use of chromium VI, cadmium and arsenic without the installation of approved emission control devices to reduce the risk from airborne metal exposure to those in the surrounding community. The new rules would have also prohibited the use of chromium III until DEQ establishes a maximum allowable usage rate and allowed DEQ to take enforcement action if companies fail to comply.

For a copy of the proposed rules, please visit
http://www.oregon.gov/deq/EQC/Documents/2016/031516eqcAgenda.pdf

The public comment period opens March 16, and will close at 5 p.m. on March 30, 2016. All comments must be received by that date and time to be considered by staff and provided to the commissioners as part of the proposed temporary rules at the April 20-21, 2016, EQC meeting. That meeting will be in Portland, specific venue to be determined.

Additional information will be posted to DEQ's webpages on Wednesday, March 16, including the specific contact person and email address for all written comments.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Oregon's environment.

- Stephanie Caldera, EQC assistant

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