



# **BIOMASS BOILER TEMPORARY RULES**

**Environmental Quality Commission Meeting**

**June 17, 2011**

**Agenda Item J**

# BACKGROUND

## ○ Issue:

- Existing Heat Smart rules cause unintended problems for small biomass boilers
  - Overlap between requirements for commercial biomass boilers
  - Currently prohibited under existing Heat Smart rules

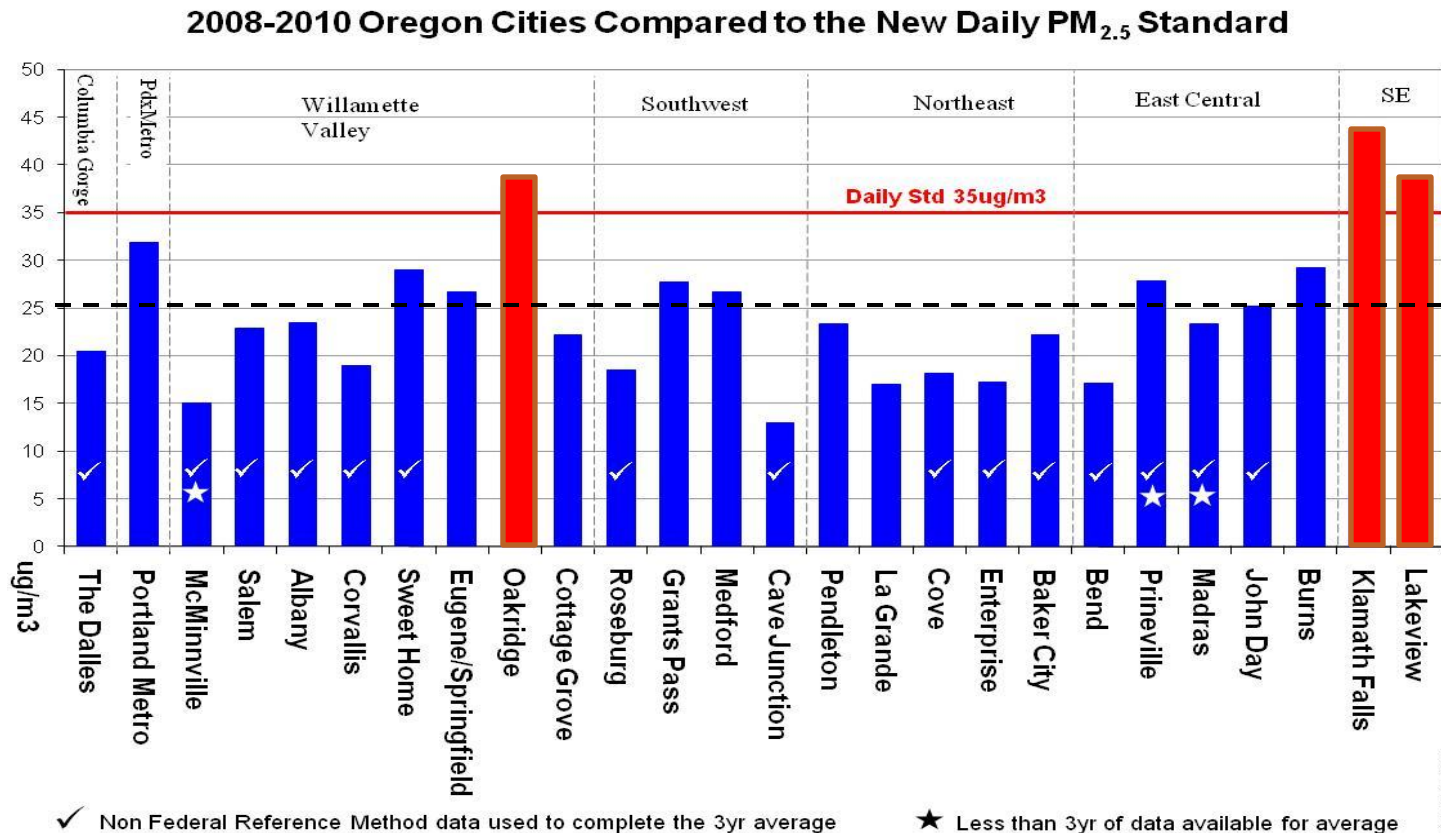
## ○ Solution:

- Creates pathways for small (under 1 MMBtu/hr) commercial, industrial, and institutional biomass boilers to be sold in the state



# BACKGROUND

- Heat Smart rules adopted February 17, 2011
  - Addresses particulate matter issues in Oregon from residential and small commercial wood smoke



## BACKGROUND

- Heat Smart rules establishes emission standards for a broader range of residential and commercial wood-heating devices, including:
  - “EPA-exempt” stoves
  - Outdoor wood boilers (hydronic heaters)
- Devices must meet the federal New Source Performance Standard for woodstoves to be sold in Oregon



Outdoor Wood Boiler



# BIOMASS BOILERS - WHAT REQUIREMENTS APPLY?

## Boiler Size

Under 1  
MMBtu/hr

### Heat Smart rule boilers

- must be certified in order to be sold and installed in Oregon

Under 10  
MMBtu/hr

### Area source rule boilers

- required to register with DEQ upon notification
- subject to federal requirements for biennial tune-ups
  - must meet existing state particulate and opacity standards

Over 10  
MMBtu/hr

### Boiler MACT

- currently required to obtain DEQ permit
- must meet emissions limits

Boilers EXEMPT from Heat Smart certification:

- If subject to federal area source boiler requirements
- Must register and meet other requirements



# BIOMASS BOILER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

- Subject to one-time web-based registration with DEQ
- No fee is charged
- Registrant confirms compliance on-line
  - Particulate standard
  - Opacity standard
  - Biennial tune up requirements
- Any changes or updates to information can be done through maintaining registration on-line



# STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH



- Met with key stakeholders on June 3, 2011
  - Discussed temporary rules
  
- Made additional clarifications to rules based on discussion (Revised Attachment A)
  - Revised registration deadline
  - Simplified information required at registration
  - Requires only one-time registration unless changes are made to existing boilers



# SUMMARY

- Creates pathways for small (under 1 MMBtu/hr) commercial, industrial, and institutional biomass boilers to be sold in the state
  - Currently prohibited under existing Heat Smart rules
- Creates a registration process for medium size boilers (1MMBtu/hr – 10,000 MMBtu/hr) subject to federal air toxics rules
- Ensures all these biomass boilers meet existing state and federal air quality rules





## NEXT STEPS

- File temporary rules with Secretary of State
- Begin permanent rulemaking process
  - Public comment period
  - Meetings with stakeholders
- Present permanent rules to EQC in December 2011

