Department of Environmental Quality

Memorandum

Date:

April 13, 2016

To:

Environmental Quality Commission

From:

Joni Hammond, Acting Director

Subject:

Agenda item K, Informational item: Engagement plan and process for

development of permanent air toxics rules

April 20-21, 2016, EQC meeting

Purpose of item

DEQ will present a proposed engagement plan and process associated with the development of permanent rules for the air toxics program.

Background

In response to monitoring and other data, DEQ proposed temporary rules to limit certain emissions from specific types of manufacturing practices in the Portland Air Quality Maintenance Area. The temporary rules were initially proposed in March 2016, and the commission directed DEQ to take public comment and return with proposed temporary rules for the April 20-21, 2016, regular EQC meeting.

Temporary rules, if enacted, expire after 180 days. DEQ intends to develop permanent air toxics rules that would cover the same content of the temporary rules, and potentially other air toxics emissions and manufacturing sectors in 2016.

EQC involvement and next steps

The commission will accept public comment specific to the proposed engagement plan and development process as item L, immediately following this informational item, at the April 20-21, 2016, EQC meeting. The commission may also provide general direction or other feedback to DEQ regarding the engagement and development processes.

DEQ will begin its permanent rule development process and engagement plan, with any revisions based on meeting discussion and public comment, in spring 2016.

Report prepared by Stephanie Caldera Commission assistant