



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Agency Headquarters

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June 17, 2026

Benchmade Knife Company

300 Beavercreek Rd.

Oregon City, OR 97045

Sent electronically only

Joel Kershaw,

DEQ sent a letter to Benchmade Knife Company (Benchmade) in Oregon City, OR on March 27, 2026, requiring your facility to perform a risk assessment in accordance with the Cleaner Air Oregon (CAO) program rules. To begin the risk assessment process, DEQ required Benchmade to submit the CAO New/Reconstructed Source Risk Assessment Application (Application), CAO Emissions Inventory (Inventory), and payment of the associated New Source Consulting Fee by June 25, 2026. On June 9, 2026, Benchmade submitted a request to DEQ for a 90-day extension of the deadline to submit the Application and Inventory by no later than September 23, 2026.

DEQ may grant an extension based on the criteria set in [OAR 340-245-0030\(3\)](#), which require sources to demonstrate progress towards completing the submittal and show that a delay is necessary for good cause. Benchmade has requested additional time for the following reasons: to better characterize the capacity of their equipment; to develop representative alloy compositions; to obtain flow parameters for their externally venting control equipment; and to better quantify the capture efficiency of control equipment and understand the potential for fugitive emissions. DEQ understands that Benchmade has demonstrated progress on the Inventory by working with a consultant to collect information necessary to estimate toxic air contaminant emissions from sources and activities at the facility and by reaching out to contractors for the ventilation work. DEQ agrees that an extension would allow Benchmade the time needed to develop a more complete Inventory. For these reasons, DEQ approves Benchmade's request and grants a 90-day extension from the original submittal deadline of June 25, 2026.

Since the March 27, 2026, letter, DEQ has made a formal source determination for your facility under the CAO program. DEQ has determined that Benchmade is considered an existing source for the purposes of the CAO program. [\[OAR 340-245-0020\(20\)\]](#) Therefore, Benchmade is required to submit to DEQ the CAO Existing Source Risk Assessment Application and Existing Source Call-in Fee along with the Inventory by no later than **September 23, 2026**. The CAO Existing Source Call-in Fee for a Simple ACDP is **\$1,047**. [\[OAR 340-216-8030 Table 3\]](#) Note that an additional 4 percent technology fee of **\$41.88** will be applied to this payment in Your DEQ Online.

DEQ recommends that Benchmade meet with DEQ prior to conducting any testing. Testing done without DEQ consultation and/or approval may not be accepted for use in the Risk Assessment.

DEQ remains available to meet with Benchmade or provide feedback via email. Please contact me directly at (971) 300-3653 or amy.devita-mcbride@deq.oregon.gov, if you have any questions regarding this letter or CAO submittal requirements. I look forward to your continued assistance with this process.

Benchmade Knife Company

Sincerely,

Amy DeVita-McBride

Amy DeVita-McBride
CAO Project Engineer

Cc: Megan Edmundson, Benchmade Knife Company
Leslie Riley, MFA
Julia DeGagné, DEQ
J.R. Giska, DEQ
File