



Frequently Asked Questions about the Cleaner Air Oregon Draft Framework

What is the draft Cleaner Air Oregon draft framework?

The draft framework is a proposal that provides an outline for drafting health-based air quality regulations to protect public health, and balance environmental and economic values. It outlines different points that require further discussion and decisions. The rulemaking process will add the details to this outline for a full set of rules to be considered later this summer.

What is the goal of the proposed framework?

The goal is to help focus public engagement on the key elements that must be addressed as we carry out the Governor's charge. It will guide the next stage of public input and help develop draft rules before they are made available for public comment.

How was the draft framework developed?

The draft framework was developed by Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality staff and it incorporates extensive public input received at four regional forums held across the state and discussions with technical experts and environmental, business, community and public health leaders.

How does the draft framework make health-based standards possible?

The health-based standards are possible because we have risk based concentration levels for individual air toxics that allow us to calculate total risk from a facility, including all of its emissions. The emissions limits will correlate with total risk limits.

Will the draft framework cause disruption for businesses?

Businesses will need to determine their emissions for more air toxics than they have had to determine in the past. However, many Oregon businesses have operations in other states where they have to comply with health risk based air toxics programs.

Is the draft framework final?

No. It is a draft proposal for consideration. Public input will inform how the framework is translated into specific draft rules.

Isn't this just a Portland issue? Why will the Cleaner Air Oregon program apply to the whole state?

The draft Cleaner Air Oregon framework will ensure that both current industrial and future industrial expansions will be held to standards that consider the public's health, the environment, and the economic stability of the community.

Why doesn't the Cleaner Air Oregon program address diesel?

The draft framework only addresses diesel emissions from point sources, i.e. boilers and diesel-powered stationary machinery. Other efforts to address diesel emissions are underway in the Oregon legislature and at DEQ.

How will the draft framework be used?

Following review and revisions from the Cleaner Air Oregon Rules Advisory Committee, the draft framework will be used to guide the preparation of new rules, which will be released for public comment in the summer of 2017.

Based on the draft framework, how will Oregon's new air toxics regulations be different from other industrial air toxics programs?

Cleaner Air Oregon will:

- Address a wider range of air toxics and facilities;
- Set limits on allowable risks from air toxics;
- Reduce risks from multiple facilities;
- Protect the most vulnerable people, such as children and pregnant women, and communities with high historical rates of exposure to air toxics;
- Align Oregon rules with other states; and,
- Recognize a thriving economy in Oregon is an important factor that affects public health.

Who is on the Rules Advisory Committee?

The committee includes local health officials, business leaders, environmental advocates, community leaders, and scientists.

Will the public have the opportunity to comment on the draft rules?

Yes. The draft rules will be available for public comment in the summer of 2017.

Will DEQ have the staffing/resources to support the new regulations?

DEQ and OHA are requesting approval from the Oregon legislature for fees to pay for the implementation of Cleaner Air Oregon.

Is there a list of pollutants that the Cleaner Air Oregon program is looking at?

Yes. The list is comprised of 633 pollutants and can be found on the Air Toxics Emissions Inventory page of DEQ's website under "List of Air Toxic Contaminants,"

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/aaq/cao-instructions.htm>

For more information, visit CleanerAir.Oregon.gov or email: info@cleanerairoregon.org