



## **Air Toxics Science Advisory Committee**

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### **Charter for the Members of the Air Toxics Science Advisory Committee**

The purpose of ATSAC will be to provide DEQ, and in its jurisdiction, the Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority, with advice on the state air toxics program that is scientifically and technically sound, independent, balanced, useful, and timely. As stated in Oregon Administrative Rule [OAR] 340-246-0090(2)(e), "...once the ATSAC has completed review of each set of proposed ambient benchmarks, the Department will . . .begin the process to propose ambient benchmarks as administrative rules for adoption by the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC)". DEQ gets public input through the rulemaking process, which is then reflected in the final proposed rules the DEQ presents to the EQC.

DEQ wants members of the ATSAC to understand that their voluntary commitment of uncompensated and significant time and work is not regarded lightly, but we also want members of the ATSAC to understand up front that there is a possibility that decisions may be made by DEQ regarding ASTAC recommendations that encompass concerns outside of the ATSAC venue.

ATSAC will address technical issues, not policy issues; risk assessment and engineering issues, not risk management decisions; the adequacy of the scientific foundation on which a DEQ position (e.g., ambient benchmark values) is based, not the position itself. ATSAC is intended solely as a technical advisory body, not as a committee designed to reflect stakeholder views. As such, ATSAC will be charged with the following responsibilities:

- Reviewing ambient benchmarks for the state air toxics program;
- Providing advice on development of a risk assessment methodology for the Safety Net Program per OAR 340-246-0190 (5) and (6);
- Evaluating potential sources identified by DEQ to determine whether they qualify for the Safety Net Program, as specified in OAR 340-246-0190 through -0230;
- Evaluating overall progress in reducing emissions of, and exposure to, air toxics by considering trends in emissions and ambient concentrations of air toxics;

- Periodically advising DEQ on air toxics program effectiveness;
- Making technical recommendations for program development with respect to: (a) adverse environmental effects of air toxics and (b) risk from exposure to multiple air toxics; and
- Providing, as requested by DEQ, advisory opinions on questions requiring scientific expertise.