



Department of Environmental Quality
Air Quality Program

**GENERAL
AIR CONTAMINANT DISCHARGE PERMIT
ASSESSMENT REPORT
GRAIN ELEVATORS**

SOURCE DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATION

1. This General permit is designed to regulate the particulate matter emissions from intermediate storage grain elevators. Subject facilities are those located in designated Special Control Areas and processing 10,000 tons or more per year.

The following areas are designated as Special Control Areas: The counties within the Willamette Valley, including Benton, Clackamas, Columbia, Lane, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Washington and Yamhill Counties; Umpqua Basin; Rogue Basin; and within incorporated cities having a population of 4,000 or more, and within three miles of the corporate limits of any such city. [OAR 340-204-0070]

2. The facilities assigned to this General Permit may not emit any other air pollution that requires regulation beyond that specified in this permit, except for other pollution emissions that also qualify for assignment, and are assigned, to other General Permits and categorically insignificant activities defined by OAR Chapter 340 Division 200. A facility that has experienced reoccurring or serious compliance problems is not eligible for assignment to this permit.
3. If this General Permit does not cover all requirements applicable to the facility, the other applicable requirements must be covered by assignment to one or more General Permit Attachments in accordance with OAR 340-216-0062, otherwise the facility must obtain a Simple or Standard Permit. A facility requesting to be assigned to a General Permit Attachment, in accordance with OAR 340-216-0062, for a source category in a higher annual fee class, must be reassigned to the General Permit for the source category in the higher annual fee class.

ASSESSMENT OF EMISSIONS

4. The facilities assigned to this General permit are sources of PM and PM₁₀ emissions. Emission points may include the receiving of materials by truck or rail, material conveyance, storage, cleaning, and bulk off-loading.
5. Potential nuisances originating from this type of operation could include fugitive dust associated with handling the grain. The permit includes requirements to minimize fugitive dust emissions.

6. DEQ has assessed the level of emissions from these facilities and determined that facilities complying with the operational limits and monitoring requirements of this permit will remain area sources and compliant with applicable emissions limits. However, facilities assigned to this permit will be required to track and report various data elements to demonstrate compliance. If DEQ determines that facilities assigned to this permit emit above permitted emissions limits, the permittee will be required to obtain a different permit.

SPECIFIC AIR PROGRAM APPLICABILITY

7. The types of facilities assigned to this General permit are not subject to federal standards.
8. Facilities assigned to this General Permit are subject to the general visible emissions standards and nuisance requirements (control of fugitive dust and odors) in OAR Chapter 340, Division 208. The permit contains requirements and limitations to ensure compliance with these standards. The particulate matter emission limits in OAR Chapter 340, Division 226 are not applicable to these facilities because the emissions are fugitives, which cannot be measured using standard test methods.

COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

9. The permittees are required to maintain records of production and throughput, plant inspections, upset conditions, operations and maintenance plans, fugitive emissions control plans, and complaints, as applicable. Many of these items are reported to DEQ annually.
10. DEQ staff members review annual report submittals and perform site inspections of the permitted facilities on a routine basis; inspections may be performed more frequently if complaints are received.

REVOCAION OF ASSIGNMENT

11. Any facility that fails to demonstrate compliance, generates complaints, or fails to conform to the requirements and limitations contained in the permit may have its assignment to the General permit revoked. The facility would then be subject to a higher, more stringent level of permitting.

PUBLIC NOTICE

12. General Air Contaminant Discharge Permits are authorized by Oregon Administrative Rules and are part of the State Implementation Plan. As part of the General ACDP issuance process under OAR chapter 340 division 209, the public was provided at least 30 days to submit written comments. DEQ reviewed all comments received within the comment period and modified the permit.

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Comment	Correct typographical errors, incorrect cross references, and update phone numbers for DEQ offices.
Response	DEQ made the suggested changes.

Comment	<p>A primary area of concern is that it appears to eliminate a section without a replacement should there be a lapse in DEQ renewal. The prior permit noted: “If DEQ is delinquent in renewing the permit, the existing permit will remain in effect and the permittee must comply with the conditions of the permit until such time that the permit is reissued and the source is reassigned to the permit.” As I understand, the rules governing these permits expired August 1, 2021, creating a gap in the rules. Gaps in renewing permits could also occur, through no fault of a facility that is operating within the rules in place at the time of their permitting. Should DEQ not be sufficiently staffed or able to handle a permit renewal, the facility should not be punished for its continued compliance. I suggest that segment remain incorporated.</p>
Response	<p>DEQ is removing this condition from all General permits to eliminate redundancy. In OAR 340-216-0082 Termination or Revocation of an ACDP, the rule allows for continued operation under an expired permit as long as a timely and complete application for renewal has been submitted (emphasis added).</p> <p>(1) Expiration.</p> <p>(a) A source may not be operated after the expiration date of a permit, unless any of the following occur prior to the expiration date of the permit:</p> <p>(A) A timely and complete application for renewal has been submitted; or</p> <p>(B) Another type of permit, ACDP or Oregon Title V Operating Permit, has been issued authorizing operation of the source.</p> <p>(b) If a timely and complete renewal application has been submitted, the existing permit will remain in effect until final action has been taken on the renewal application to issue or deny a permit.</p> <p>No change has been made.</p>

AQGP-013r, grain elevators

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