

SMALLBIZ@EPA

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE
SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY

EPA'S ASBESTOS AND SMALL BUSINESS OMBUDSMAN

MARCH 2020

Fostering
Partnerships

Improving Advocacy
and Accessibility

Small Business Compliance
Assistance



The EPA Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO) Program serves as an advocate and liaison for small businesses in the rule development and compliance assistance process at EPA. ASBO regularly partners with a variety of stakeholders to address small business questions and concerns, including; the state Small Business Ombudsmen and Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs), small business trade associations, headquarter and regional EPA program offices, as well as federal agencies like the Small Business Administration.

ASBO's partnerships provide the perspective and collaboration EPA requires to support small businesses in achieving their environmental performance goals. The SmallBiz@EPA Bulletin strives to provide EPA and the small business community access to the necessary environmental news, regulatory updates and resources that may impact or assist small businesses.

SmallBiz@EPA Bulletin

Welcome your
Submissions

Potential

Submission Topics:

- Upcoming Events
- Success Stories
- New Assistance Tools
- Technical Updates
- Regulatory Updates
- Stories to Reach the Small Business Community
- Updated Contact Information

Submission Guidelines:

- 150 words or less
- Provide a title for the article
- Include a link to more information on the topic
- Include contact information to be included in the article submission
- Articles should be submitted by the 15th of each month.
- Submit your articles to thompson.elnora@epa.gov



REMINDER: SAVE THE DATE!



Photo courtesy of Washington.org

National Small Business Environmental Assistance Program 2020 Annual Training

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| When: | Conference Dates: May 5-7, 2020 (Tuesday – Thursday) (approximately 8:00 am – 5:00 pm each day) |
| Where: | Yours Truly DC (formally The Wink Hotel) 1143 New Hampshire Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20037 202-775-0800 (lodging and conference) |
| Register: | Registration for the conference is now open. Please register here! |
| Reserve: | Reserve your hotel room for the conference at: Yours Truly DC (formally The Wink Hotel) Use the link to reserve online: SBEAP Annual Training You can also call the hotel directly at: 1-202-775-0800 and ask for the EPA Meeting. The room rate is \$256 plus 14.95% tax. The cut-off date for hotel reservations at this rate is April 13, 2020. |
| Getting There: | From Reagan National Washington National Airport The following transportation options are available: Taxi: \$30 Uber/Lyft: \$18-20 Metro (train): Take the yellow line in the direction of Fort Totten, change to the red line in the direction of Shady Grove. Exit at the Dupont Circle Station (located 5 blocks from the hotel) |
| Contact: | Please call 800-368-5888 https://nationalsbeap.org/training |

Anticipated Topics

While the agenda is still being developed, this conference will provide an opportunity for participants to learn about the following:

National SBEAP Program - learn about the accomplishments of the program and individual state programs, tools and tips for successful marketing of these programs and what the national strategic plan is for the next two years

National Steering Committee - review accomplishments and works in progress; discuss strategies, new activities and opportunities to strengthen the NSC and state programs

Technical Topics on Air and Other Media - presentations from states and discussion with the U.S. EPA about current issues, policies and/or rules (specific topics to be determined)

Trade Associations (anticipated) - meet with representatives from various trade associations with small business concerns

Paula Zampieri Hoag, New Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman within the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization



EPA OSDBU Director, Denise Benjamin Sirmons announces the selection of Paula Zampieri Hoag as the new Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO) within the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU). Paula has worked in OSDBU since the summer of 2006, and specifically in the ASBO program since 2008. As part of OSDBU, Paula has assisted the small business community both directly as a small business advocate and liaison within EPA, and through her collaborations with federal and other external stakeholders, such as the State Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAP).

During her tenure at EPA, Paula also served in EPA’s Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations as the Designated Federal Officer for two advisory committees. She also gained experience in EPA’s Office of Policy Regulatory Management Division as a Regulatory Desk Officer, and Coordinator for the Small Business Advocacy Review Panel and the Regulatory Steering Committee. Paula earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resource Planning, with a concentration in Environmental Policy and Law from the University of Vermont’s Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

As the ASBO, Paula will focus on supporting small business compliance assistance programs, advocating for small business during agency rule development, and promoting sustainability resources for the small business community. Contact Paula with your questions or concerns at hoag.paula@epa.gov.

ASBO Communication Materials Survey:

[EPA’s Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman \(ASBO\) Program](#) has developed a survey to help gauge the needs of our stakeholders. We are soliciting your help in this effort. The focus of this survey will help ASBO determine what communication resources and services will best support and assist the needs of our customers. Your feedback is much appreciated. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this important endeavor.

Please take this 3 minute online survey here: [ASBO Communication Materials Survey](#). The survey will be open until March 19, 2020.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) 2020 Issuance of the Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity

All ten of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Regions are proposing for public comment the 2020 NPDES general permit for stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity, also referred to as the "2020 Multi-Sector General Permit. The proposed permit, once finalized, will replace the EPA's existing MSGP that will expire on June 4, 2020. The EPA proposes to issue this permit for five years, and to provide permit coverage to eligible operators in all areas of the country where the EPA is the NPDES permitting authority, including Idaho, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and New Mexico, Indian country lands, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and most U.S. territories and protectorates. The **EPA seeks comments by May 1, 2020 on the proposed general permit** and on the accompanying fact sheet, which contains supporting documentation. This [Federal Register document](#) describes the proposed permit and includes specific topics on which the EPA is particularly seeking comment. The Agency also solicits comment on alternatives to the proposal and/or not moving forward with the proposal in the final permit. EPA encourages the public to read the fact sheet to better understand the proposed permit.

For further information go to: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater-discharges-industrial-activities>

EPA Meets President Trump's Deadline, Makes Agency Guidance Available to the Public



"EPA has followed through on President Trump's direction to streamline and improve the transparency of regulatory guidance issued by the agency," said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler. "This new online database is a major milestone in government transparency. Never before has the American public had access to all of the Agency's guidance documents. This initiative spearheaded by President Trump will finally provide sunlight to agency decisions."

EPA's Regulatory Guidance Portal is now live and available to the public at: www.epa.gov/guidance.



Reducing Toxic Chemicals in the Garment Cleaning Industry Webinar Announcement

Date & Time: March 19, 10:00 – 11:00 AM (PST)

Registration: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1161507995938208513>

There may be as many as 21,000 dry cleaning operations in the U.S. Three chemicals traditionally used in garment cleaning for the main cleaning process and/or for stain removal, are now on the U.S. EPA's Toxic Substance Control Act's highest-priority ten chemicals to undergo risk evaluation, due to significant human and environmental health concerns. One dominant garment cleaning chemical used for decades, is perchloroethylene, both in the main dry-cleaning process and as a spotting agent. PERC is a likely carcinogen, causing organ and nervous system damage, and skin, eye, and respiratory irritation. This webinar will discuss two relevant projects in the Pacific Northwest, and help the audience better understand U.S. EPA's Safer Chemical Ingredients List as a tool for analyzing ingredients and formulating safer products.

[This webinar is made possible by US EPA's Source Reduction Assistance Grant Program](#)

Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

SBEAP
Q's & A's



Dear SBEAP,

We were recently inspected and found we had seven different containers of a cleaner containing xylene in our facility. All had exceeded their expiration dates and had to be disposed. This cost money and time. How can we avoid this situation in the future? And also, can we be saving money by purchasing in bulks?

Cindy of Countless Cans

Dear Cindy,

Controlling your purchasing and handling of materials can save money, reduces waste, emissions, hazards, storage space and headaches. Frequently evaluation of inventory through your entire facility can help save money and help prevent from disposing of materials exceeding their expiration date.

Environmental regulations can vary from state to state, *Ask SBEAP* recommends you contact your state SBEAP who is there to provide environmental compliance technical assistance personalized to your small business. To find your state SBEAP, [click on this map](#). EPA has recently published a [new guide for small businesses managing hazardous waste](#). This guide may also be helpful and will be the featured topic for next month's "Ask SBEAP." If you have a specific question you would like answered, please e-mail [Ask SBEAP](#) or call us at 800-578-8898.



EPA FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

Air Plan Approval; Iowa; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Requirements for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard

<https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=EPA-R07-OAR-2020-0093> <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=EPA-R07-OAR-2020-0093>

Federal Register: Vol. 85, No. 40,
Monday, March 2, 2020/Proposed Rules

AGENCY: EPA

ACTION: Proposed rule

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve certain elements of a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision submission from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) addressing the applicable requirements of Section 110 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Section 110 requires that each state adopt and submit a SIP revision to support the implementation, maintenance, and enforcement of each new or revised NAAQS promulgated by the EPA. These SIPs are commonly referred to as “infrastructure” SIPs. The infrastructure requirements are designed to ensure that the structural components of each state’s air quality management program are adequate to meet the State’s responsibilities under the CAA. In this action, the EPA is proposing to approve the interstate transport portions of the State’s 2015 Ozone NAAQS infrastructure SIP submittal. **DATES:** Comments must be received on or before April 1, 2020.

For further information contact: Lachala Kemp,
(617)918–1652 email at [kemp.lachala @epa.gov](mailto:kemp.lachala@epa.gov).

EPA Plan for the Federal Certification of Applicators of Restricted Use Pesticides Within Indian Country; Proposed Revisions; Notice of Availability and Request for Comment

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-03-02/pdf/2020-04189.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 85, No. 41,
Monday, March 2, 2020/Proposed Rules

AGENCY: EPA

ACTION: Proposed rule

SUMMARY: EPA is announcing proposed revisions to the EPA-administered federal pesticide applicator certification plan to certify applicators of restricted use pesticides in areas of Indian country that are not covered by any other EPA approved certification plan. After this proposed plan is finalized and implemented, certification of applicators in Indian country will be administered by EPA, unless a tribe submits its own tribal certification plan, enters into a tribal-EPA agreement, or opts out of the revised EPA Plan. EPA is soliciting comments on EPA’s proposed revisions to the federal certification plan in Indian country where no other EPA-approved plan applies. Comments must be received on or before June 1, 2020

For further information contact: Jackie Mosby
(703)305–7102 email at mosby.jackie@epa.gov.