

Congratulations to Paula Hoag and Liz Pucci – EPA Bronze Medal Award Recipients!

Paula Hoag of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP) received the Agency's Bronze Medal Award in recognition of her work and achievements as the lead small business liaison and content writer of the *Smart Steps to Sustainability 2.0 Guide for Small Business*. Smart Steps 2.0 provides resources, information and ideas to assist small businesses in reducing their environmental impacts and was made available during Small Business Week (May 2015). <http://www2.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses/smart-steps-sustainability-20>

EPA's Liz Pucci of the Office of Administration and Resources Management (OARM) also received the Bronze Medal as lead graphic designer and content reviewer. Both Paula and Liz were an integral part in developing and completing the Guide, bringing their team work and leadership skills in sustainability, small business and graphic/publication design together to develop a free and updated, on-line small business sustainability tool.

In general, all EPA Bronze Medal Award nominations should show evidence of truly significant and unique accomplishments, quality work or projects, and should exceed the person's or group member's normal duties. Both Ms. Hoag and Ms. Pucci have gone above and beyond in developing a necessary resource guide for small business.

Please join OSBP in congratulating Paula and Liz on this great accomplishment.

**DO YOU HAVE ARTICLES FOR THE
SMALLBIZ@EPA NEWSLETTER?
FORWARD TO: LILLIAN HARRIS AT:
HARRIS.LILLIAN@EPA.GOV
EPA'S OMBUDSMAN:
JOAN B. ROGERS AT:
ROGERS.JOANB@EPA.GOV**



John Reeder, Kimberly Patrick, Stan Meiburg and Paula Hoag

Renewable Energy Powers Community Resiliency

Communities investing in renewable energy infrastructure and systems know that they will save money on energy costs, but in the event of a natural disaster or emergency, these systems can prove their value far beyond a reduced monthly utility bill. This was the focus of the Building Resilience through Local Renewable Energy session at the recent Growing Sustainable Communities Conference in Dubuque, Iowa. While "going green" often is looked at from a cost saving or positive PR standpoint, David Morley, a senior research associate with the [American Planning Association](http://www.americanplanning.org/), said these systems can help communities get back on their feet quickly after an emergency, whether it's due to climate change, a natural disaster or a man-made event. Renewable systems are diverse, redundant and often decentralized from the main power source, Morley said, attributes that can help communities incorporate them into their disaster planning scenarios. Read more at:

http://www.sustainablecitynetwork.com/topic_channels/development/article_968f1788-9784-11e5-80f1-bffbc3cbf04c.html?mode=story

EPA Proposes to Reduce Smog-Forming Pollution Transported Across State Lines

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing updates to the agency's Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) to address interstate air quality impacts for the 2008 ozone air quality standards. The proposed updates would reduce summertime emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) from power plants that contribute to downwind ozone problems in the eastern half of the U.S.

“This update will help protect the health and lives of millions of Americans by reducing exposure to ozone pollution which is linked to serious public health effects including reduced lung function, asthma, emergency room visits and hospital admissions, and early death from respiratory and cardiovascular causes,” said EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. “The proposed updates support states’ obligation to address air pollution that is carried across state lines.”

The Clean Air Act’s “good neighbor” provision requires states – or, as a backstop, EPA – to address interstate transport of air pollution that affects the ability of downwind states to attain and maintain clean air standards. Under the “good neighbor” provision, states develop state implementation plans while EPA plays a backstop role by issuing federal implementation plans (FIPs) if a state fails to submit an approvable plan. Today’s proposal provides the FIP that would apply if EPA’s backstop obligation is triggered. States may choose to have their emissions sources controlled by the FIP rather than developing their own plan. Specifically, the proposed updates identify cuts in power plant NOx emissions in 23 states in the eastern half of the country that contribute significantly to downwind ozone air quality problems and can be achieved using existing, proven and cost-effective control technologies. The proposed cuts in NOx emissions would lead to significant improvements in air quality for the 2017 ozone season. EPA is also proposing to adopt FIPs for each of the 23 states in the event that a state does not submit an approvable SIP. Read more on this proposal at:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/78F8D7C6B801B81E85257F00005181BB>



EPA FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES**SUBJECT: Tamarind Seed Gum, 2-Hydroxypropyl Ether Polymer; Tolerance Exemption**

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-11-16/pdf/2015-29169.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 80, No. 220/Monday, November 16, 2015/Rules and Regulations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Final Rule

SUMMARY: This regulation establishes an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for residues of tamarind seed gum, 2-hydroxypropyl ether polymer (CAS Reg. No. 68551-04-2) when used as an inert ingredient in a pesticide chemical formulation. Lamberti USA, Incorporated submitted a petition to EPA under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), requesting an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance. This regulation eliminates the need to establish a maximum permissible level for residues of tamarind seed gum, 2-hydroxypropyl ether polymer on food or feed commodities.

SUBJECT: Receipt of Several Pesticide Petitions Filed for Residues of Pesticide Chemicals in or on Various Commodities

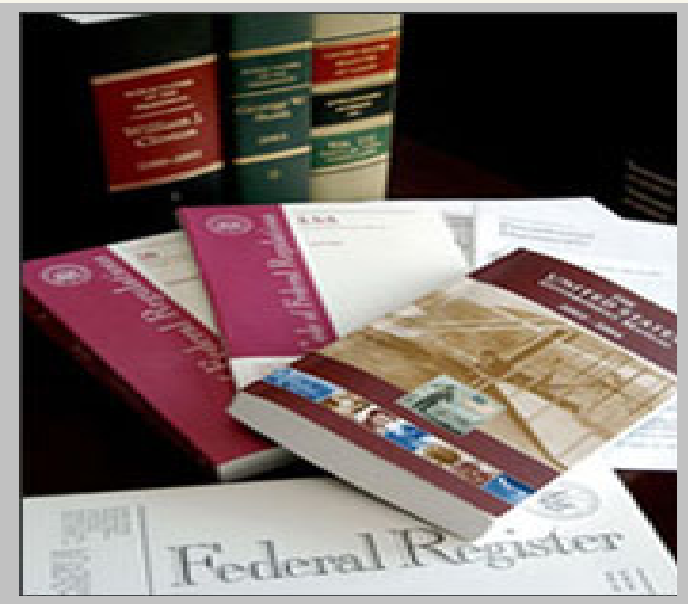
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-11-25/pdf/2015-29893.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 80, No. 227/Wednesday, November 25, 2015/Rules and Regulations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Notice of Filing of Petitions and Request for Comment.

SUMMARY: This document announces the Agency's receipt of several initial filings of pesticide petitions requesting the establishment or modification of regulations for residues of pesticide chemicals in or on various commodities.

**New York's SBEAP Provides a High Level of Assistance**

The New York Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) provides free, confidential technical assistance to New York's small-business owners to assist them in complying with state and federal air regulations.

What does SBEAP do? They operate a toll-free technical assistance hotline to answer questions from small businesses, help determine what regulations apply to their operations, and help them understand how to comply with those regulations. They assist businesses with permit applications for State Facility Permits or Air Facility Registrations including emission inventories, air dispersion modeling and compliance plans. They provide pollution prevention suggestions in the areas of material substitution and process modification that may alleviate regulatory requirements. As needed, they conduct on-site technical assistance visits to evaluate the site-specific compliance issues for small businesses throughout New York State in addition to helping new businesses understand what requirements must be met upon start-up. For more information, go to: www.efc.ny.gov/sbeap or by emailing sbeap@efc.ny.gov

Risk Management Plan (RMP) Rule Overview

Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act Amendments requires EPA to publish regulations and guidance for chemical accident prevention at facilities that use certain hazardous substances. These regulations and guidance are contained in the Risk Management Plan (RMP) rule.

The information required from facilities under RMP helps local fire, police, and emergency response personnel prepare for and respond to chemical emergencies. Making RMPs available to the public also fosters communication and awareness to improve accident prevention and emergency response practices at the local level. The RMP rule was built upon existing industry codes and standards. It requires companies that use certain flammable and toxic substance to develop a Risk Management Program.

To learn more about the RMP Rule, Visit the following websites:

<http://www.epa.gov/rmp>



<http://www.epa.gov/pesticide-incidents/report-spills-and-environmental-violations>

<http://www2.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses>

251st American Chemical Society National Meeting & Exposition

Theme: Computers in Chemistry



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<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/spring-2016/registration.html>