

The Federal Government Provides Several Resources for Environmental Grants & Loans

The U.S. Small Business Administration provides the following links to help find financial resources to pay for energy efficient upgrades to your facilities, to finance your business's innovative environmental products and technologies and to support your environmentally friendly business.

Grants.gov - Search **grants.gov** by category to see grant applications related to energy, environmental topics, natural resources, transportation, science and technology, agriculture and disaster prevention and relief. The **Partnership for Sustainable Communities** grant site can also help you identify relevant grants on grants.gov.

Environmental Protection Agency Grants - The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has several grant programs, many of which are listed on **this site**. In addition, links to several specific programs are provided below:

- **Brownfields Grants** for redeveloping formerly polluted real estate
- **Green Building Grants**
- **Integrated Pest Management Grants**
- **National Center for Environmental Research**

The Department of Energy provides many **funding opportunities**, including:

- **Loan Programs**
- **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Grant Programs**
- **Office of Science Grants and Contracts**

For additional information, go to:

<https://www.sba.gov/content/environmental-grants-loans>

**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:](mailto:JOAN.B.ROGERS@EPA.GOV)**



Proposed Updates to the Refrigerant Management Requirements Under Section 608 of the Clean Air Act

The Clean Air Act prohibits the knowing release of ozone-depleting and substitute refrigerants during the course of maintaining, servicing, repairing, or disposing of appliances or industrial process refrigeration. The existing regulations require that persons servicing or disposing of air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment observe certain service practices that reduce emissions of ozone-depleting refrigerant. This proposed rule would update those existing requirements as well as extend them, as appropriate, to non-ozone-depleting substitute refrigerants, such as hydrofluorocarbons. The proposed updates include strengthening leak repair requirements, establishing recordkeeping requirements for the disposal of appliances containing five to 50 pounds of refrigerant, changes to the technician certification program, and changes for improved readability, compliance, and restructuring of the requirements. View fact sheet for additional information at:

<http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-11/documents/608factsheet.pdf>

Region IX Small Business Resources – As a Small Business Owner, See Which State Offers You the Assistance You Need!

Imagine that you are a small business owner looking for an ideal Region IX location for your business. You know that your industry is highly regulated in each state so one of your first criteria is easy access to regulatory assistance. Here is a compliance assistance resource “tour” through Region IX:

Arizona:

<https://www.azdeq.gov/function/compliance/smallcomm.html>.

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) welcomes you with a distinctly warm, western feel. The image of rustic brown, green and tan colored buildings and the clear blue sky will draw you in. What really catches your attention is the banner featuring: Air Quality, Water Quality, Waste programs. Click Air Quality and immediately find Compliance!

Nevada:

<http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/AirQuality/Pages/SmallBusinessAssistance.aspx>.

Clark County, NV makes it clear they are serious about business! Air Quality “Small Business Permitting Assistance” is easy to see on their website and the county offers “no nonsense” answers to common questions in plain language.

Hawaii: <http://health.hawaii.gov/cao/>. The Hawaii Department of Health’s headline, “*Helping small businesses overcome hurdles in environmental regulations,*” captures your attention immediately. One information-rich page ends by giving you the Ombudsman’s direct contact information. The “Aloha” spirit of love and welcome seems to beckon your business right through the page.

California: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ba/ba.htm>. California’s Air Resources Board offers you “Business Assistance” almost any way you want it. A menu of resources from permit assistance to speaker request is clickable from a side bar for those who want “self-service”. If you prefer your assistance delivered personally, the Ombudsman is just one click or a toll free telephone call away.

As you can see, there is a place for every business in Region IX. **Which state did you chose?**



CA small business owner, Martin Pohl, leading the CA Small Business Opportunity Advisory Panel (CA CAP) on a tour of Hughson Nut Company in California’s Central Valley.



EPA FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES**SUBJECT: Nondiscrimination in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Assistance from the Environmental Protection Agency**

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-12-14/pdf/2015-31050.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 80, No. 239/Monday, December 14, 2015/Proposed Rules

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Proposed Rules

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposes to amend its regulations with regard to compliance information, post-award compliance reviews, and complaint investigations. This proposed rule will improve the EPA's ability to ensure that recipients of federal financial assistance comply with their affirmative obligation under the Civil Rights Act of 1965 and other nondiscrimination statutes not to discriminate, while also ensuring that the EPA has sufficient flexibility and discretion to carry out its nondiscrimination compliance work.

SUBJECT: Revisions to the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 4) for Public Water Systems and Announcement of a Public Meeting

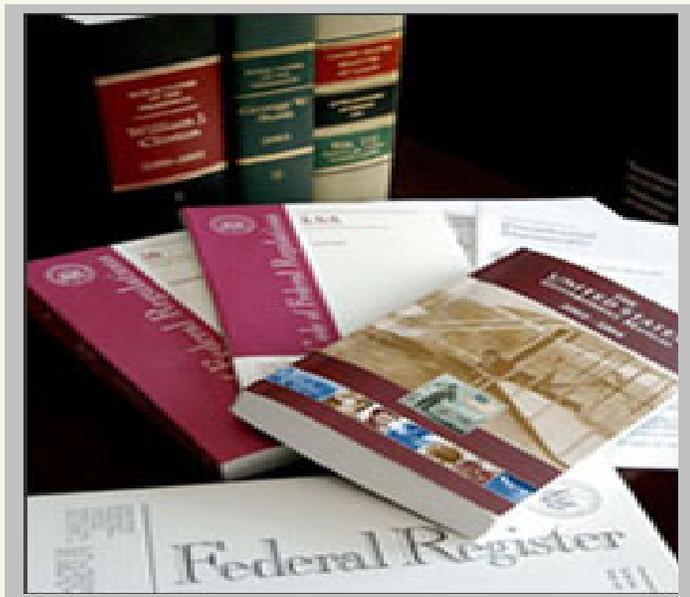
<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-12-11/pdf/2015-30824.pdf>

Federal Register: Vol. 80, No. 238/Friday, December 11, 2015/Proposed Rules

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency

ACTION: Proposed Rule

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing a Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) rule that requires public water systems to collect occurrence data for contaminants that may be present in tap water but are not yet subject to EPA's drinking water standards set under SDWA.

**EPA Seeks Public Input on Modified Training at Camp Edwards**

EPA is seeking public comment on a proposed agreement to allow the Massachusetts Army National Guard to train with a "Percussion Activated Neutralizer" at the Camp Edwards portion of Joint Base Cape Cod. The comment period, which runs through Jan. 21, 2016, provides an opportunity for public input on this modification to EPA's 1997 Safe Drinking Water Act Administrative Order. This authorization process is part of EPA's regulatory role at the Massachusetts Military Reservation to protect the sole source Cape Cod Aquifer.

In a letter dated August 18, 2015, the Massachusetts Army National Guard requested EPA approval to use Percussion Activated Neutralizers (PAN) for training purposes at Camp Edwards. The letter, which included information on the chemical makeup of the device and a description of its intended use, is available on EPA's website. Read more at:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/21b8983ffa5d0e4685257dd4006b85e2/308ffdfd4b118d3b85257f240061758a!OpenDocument>

DOE Announces Largest Energy Efficiency Standard in History

The [U.S. Department of Energy \(DOE\)](#) recently announced historic new efficiency standards for commercial air conditioners and furnaces. Developed with industry, utilities and environmental groups, these standards will save more energy than any other standard issued by the Department to date. Over the lifetime of the products, businesses will save \$167 billion on their utility bills and carbon pollution will be reduced by 885 million metric tons. "Just days after the Paris agreement to cut global emissions and create a new era of affordable energy, today's announcement marks the largest energy-saving standard in history and demonstrates that America is leading the effort to reduce energy costs and cut carbon emissions," said Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz. "This rule also shows that strong public-private partnerships can reap environmental and economic

dividends and drive technology breakthroughs. These standards are a direct result of the Energy Department's negotiated rulemaking process which brings diverse stakeholders to the negotiating table and supports industry innovation, demonstrating how government and business can work together to meet U.S. carbon reduction goals."

During the Obama administration, the Department has finalized new efficiency standards for more than 40 household and commercial products, including commercial refrigeration equipment, electric motors and fluorescent lamps, which will save consumers nearly \$535 billion and cut greenhouse gas emissions by over 2 billion metric tons through 2030. Read more on this historic announcement at:

<http://www.energy.gov/articles/energy-department-announces-largest-energy-efficiency-standard-history>

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

CO2 Summit II: Technologies and Opportunities Conference

April 10-14, 2016 in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico

Join scientists, engineers, and technology end users in an international conference that cuts across industries and research disciplines to address greenhouse gas emission mitigation. This conference will take place in the breathtaking Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico, USA, landscape in a single-track forum designed to encourage collaboration and the exchange of ideas. This conference will be a continuation of the "CO₂ Summit: Technology and Opportunity", which was held in Vail, Colorado, USA, June 6–10, 2010. At the first conference, nearly 40 presentations from 14 countries were given in addition to several poster sessions



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FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO:

<http://www.engconf.org/conferences/civil-and-environmental-engineering/co2-summit-technologies-and-opportunities/>