

## EPA Enforcement Actions Help Protect Vulnerable Communities from Lead-Based Paint Health Hazards

The EPA has announced that over 100 federal enforcement actions were completed over the last year that required entities like renovation contractors, landlords and property managers to protect communities and the public's health from exposure to lead. Lead paint is the main way people are exposed to lead in the United States, and lead exposure can cause a range of health problems from behavioral disorders and learning disabilities to seizures and death, putting young children and their developing nervous systems at the greatest risk. "Renovation companies and their contractors must protect children and other vulnerable people from lead-based paint exposure, especially in minority and low-income communities where housing with lead-based paint is more common," said Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. "These enforcement actions show that EPA will hold companies accountable when they put public health at risk, and they promote a level playing field for businesses that follow the rules." From October 2015 through September 2016, EPA entered into 123 settlements for alleged violations of one or more of the three lead-based paint rules--the Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule; the Lead Disclosure Rule; and the Lead-based Paint Activities Rule for abatements--and filed six complaints for ongoing actions. Each settlement requires that the alleged violator return to compliance and in most cases pay civil penalties. Collectively, the settlements require violators to pay \$1,046,655 in penalties. For more on this subject, go to:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-enforcement-actions-help-protect-vulnerable-communities-lead-based-paint-health>

\*\*\*\*\*

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



Lead Base Paint Can be Very Hazardous to Children

## EPA Finalizes Rule to Reduce Smog-Forming Pollution Transported Across State Lines

The EPA finalized updates to the agency's Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) that will help protect communities in the eastern U.S. from smog-forming pollution that crosses state lines. The Rule will also help states meet the 2008 air quality standards for smog or ozone. The CSAPR Update will continue to reduce summertime emissions of nitrogen oxide (NOx) from power plants that contribute to downwind ozone problems in the eastern United States. The final rule will provide annual benefits of up to \$880 million in 2017, far outweighing the estimated costs of \$68 million. For every dollar invested, American families would see up to \$13 in health benefits. The final CSAPR Update also provides improvements to visibility in national and state parks, and increases protection for sensitive ecosystems including Adirondack lakes and Appalachian streams, coastal waters, estuaries, and forests. Read more at:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-finalizes-rule-reduce-smog-forming-pollution-transported-across-state-lines>

## **The EPA Funds Project to the California Air Resources Board to Expand Green Business in California**

The EPA has awarded \$173,479 to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to help small and medium-size businesses across the state reduce their environmental impacts. Alexis Strauss, EPA's Acting Regional Administrator for the Pacific Southwest, announced the grant at Mandela Foods Cooperative in West Oakland, one of several local businesses to “go green” with CARB’s assistance. “Pollution prevention efforts can save money by increasing efficiency and lowering utility and waste disposal costs,” said Ms. Strauss. “I encourage all California businesses looking to reduce their environmental footprint and improve their bottom-line to become certified Green Businesses.” CARB will use the funds to improve the technical assistance and training efforts of the California Green Business Network, a non-profit organization that helps businesses adopt green practices. The program has expanded to support sustainable businesses in economically-disadvantaged communities. Read more at:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/us-epa-funds-project-expand-green-business-california>



\*\*\*\*\*

## **The Office of Small Business Programs is Now the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization**

The EPA’s Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP) has carried that name for several years, mainly because the Office had a responsibility for a variety of programs and, therefore, the title seemed more fitting. After closely reviewing the regulations and program purpose, it was decided to go back to the name mandated by P. L. 95-507 and re-name it the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU). This name became effective again on October 30, 2016.



## EPA FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

### **SUBJECT: Review of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Lead**

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-10-18/pdf/2016-23153.pdf>

**Federal Register:** Vol. 81, No. 201, Tuesday, October 18, 2016/Rules and Regulations  
**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency  
**ACTION:** Final Rule  
**SUMMARY:**

Based on the Environmental Protection Agency's review of the air quality criteria and the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for lead (Pb), the EPA is retaining the current standards without revision. The EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0108. Incorporated into this docket is a separate docket established for the Integrated Science Assessment for this review (Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2011-0051).

### **SUBJECT: Rescission of Preconstruction Permits Issued Under the Clean Air Act**

**Federal Register:** Vol. 81, No. 215, Monday, November 7, 2016, Rules and Regulations  
**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency  
**ACTION:** Final Rule  
**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is promulgating amendments to the EPA's federal Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) regulations to remove a date restriction from the Permit Rescission provision. Other than removing the date restriction, this final rule does not alter the criteria under which a new source review (NSR) permit may be rescinded. This final rule also clarifies that a rescission of a permit is not automatic and corrects an outdated cross-reference to another part of the PSD regulations. The EPA is also adding a corresponding Permit Rescission provision in the federal regulations that apply to major sources in nonattainment areas of Indian country.



## **North Carolina Cuts Red Tape for More Than 50% of Permitted Businesses**

A new environmental rule allows about 1,100 very small industrial facilities to opt not to hold an air quality permit. The facilities that qualify account for less than one percent of statewide emissions from factories and businesses. An additional 320 businesses must register with the state but no longer need a permit. The new rule does not remove or relax any existing emissions standards. “My administration is making government more efficient and business-friendly while improving the environment,” said Governor Pat McCrory. “We are giving these businesses relief from unnecessary regulation so they can focus on growing their companies and creating jobs.” The state environmental department will continue to issue permits, conduct inspections, and collect data on larger sources that account for most air emissions from industrial facilities. Industrial facilities will have to keep and maintain any air pollution control equipment they already have in place and they could be inspected at any time whether they are exempt from permitting requirements or not. For more information, go to: <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/air-quality/air-quality-rules/permit-exemptions-registration>

## Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Schedules Training Classes for the NetDMR and NPDES e-Reporting Rule

On October 22, 2015, EPA promulgated the NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) e-reporting rule that mandates the electronic submittal of all Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) after December 21, 2016. All permittees required to submit DMRs must comply with this rule. If you have completed all required sampling in compliance with your permit before the above deadline, you may submit your DMRs via mail or you may submit your data using the NetDMR system. After the December 2016 deadline, all DMRs must be

submitted electronically using NetDMR. Several NetDMR training classes have been scheduled to help with the transition to electronic reporting. Visit MDEQ's website at <http://www.deq.state.ms.us> for a complete list of classes and registration information. If you are unable to attend a class, a training video is also available on our website.

For questions or information, send an email to [netdmr-help@mdeq.ms.gov](mailto:netdmr-help@mdeq.ms.gov).

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

## Delaware's Small Business Assistance Program Helps Business Owners Cut Through the 'Red Tape'

Planning a new business or expanding an existing business in Delaware? Not sure if environmental permits, licenses or other approvals are needed? If so, then call upon the Regulatory Advisory Service (RAS) offered by the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP). The RAS is a free service coordinated by the SBAP's Small Business Ombudsman (SBO). The SBO arranges for all necessary staff to meet with the business owner in a one-step personal meeting to provide advice on all environmental permitting/regulatory requirements, standards to be

met, procedures to be followed, and prepares a summary report of the meeting. Benefits include time savings; bringing the right staff to a personal meeting for the business owner instead of guessing who should be contacted; preventing a permit/approval being overlooked; and, helping to avoid the expense of having plans redesigned to meet environmental requirements.

For more information about the Delaware SBAP or RAS, contact Michelle Jacobs, SBO, at [michelle.jacobs@state.de.us](mailto:michelle.jacobs@state.de.us) or 302-739-9069.