

5-POINT PLAN

to Protect Public Health from Air Toxics & Improve Permitting & Reporting

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1. Health Based Air Permitting

Immediately protect all Oregonians from all hazardous air pollutants with a health-based permitting paradigm.

- a. Account for cumulative air toxics impacts in an air shed – end the practice of allowing permits facility-by-facility without looking at accumulative and successional impacts to health.
- b. Take an environmental justice approach to the problem. Include and involve local people, communities of color, low-income folks, etc.
- c. End the “PM-Maintenance” program, a DEQ-initiated program that gives out new air permits to polluting facilities even when federal health and air quality standards are not being met.
- d. Post all Air Pollution Permits and Review Reports on the internet so that the public has full access to this information.

2. Comprehensive Air Permitting & Air Toxics Reporting Program [ORS 463.370]

Work with legislators and public interest organizations to institute a Statewide Toxics Reporting Program so that each polluting manufacturer and business report intake and output (mass balancing) of all chemicals. A Toxics Reporting Program is necessary to implement rule-making for a health-based air permitting.

- a. A Toxics-Reporting Program requires smaller polluters and bigger polluters alike to report their toxic pollutant outputs. All data is accessible to the public via the internet.

3. Toxics Use and Hazardous Waste Reduction [ORS 465.003]

Fund and overhaul the Oregon Toxics Use and Hazardous Waste Reduction program. Require polluters to file their toxics use reduction plans with the agency, track pollution reductions, require worker safety upgrades, advance better pollution control technology. The data must be publicly accessible.

4. Monitor the Air

Create an effective process to qualify and quantify both stack emissions (e.g. stack tests) and fugitive (fenceline) emissions. Monitor ambient air to ensure total airshed loading from multiple sources does not result in exceedances of numeric concentrations of pollutants.

5. Take Action to Reduce Diesel Particulate in Oregon’s Air

Diesel particulate is caused by trucks, locomotives and off-road equipment. Oregon must adopt standards as stringent as California to ensure that older truck engines and locomotives are phased out or retrofitted with diesel particulate filters. Also, Oregon must adopt restrictions on truck and train idling, invest in electrified truck rest stops and end the ban on cities and counties adopting no-idling ordinances.