



# Focus on **Air Quality General Order of Approval**

From the Department of Ecology's Air Quality Program

## Background information

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) issues Notices of Construction that allow new sources of air pollution to be constructed, or existing sources to be modified. When several sources are similar, Ecology can issue a "General Order" for all the sources, rather than a series of individual Notices of Construction. Individual facilities covered under the General Order must comply with the terms and conditions of the order.

Ecology recently created the legal framework for General Orders of approval. This framework is in the latest rules for new sources of air pollution. Ecology's Air Quality Program is now proposing to issue its first General Order.

## Proposed General Order of approval

This order is for natural gas and liquefied natural gas fired boilers with between four and 50 million BTUs per hour heat input. A business that wishes to install a boiler of this size, using these fuels, can choose to apply for coverage either under the General Order, or under the older, more site-specific Notice of Construction order of approval.

## Applicability criteria for this General Order of approval

Criterion	Limitation
Fuel	Natural gas and liquefied natural gas only
Boiler size	Between 4 and 50 mmBtu/hour heat input
Boiler type	New package (factory built) boiler utilizing low NOx burners with or without exhaust gas recirculation
Location	Located in counties or at industrial facilities under jurisdiction of the Department of Ecology
Minimum distance from stack to property line	100 ft (30.5 m)
Minimum distance from stack to hills or buildings above the top of the stack	100 ft (30.5 m)

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Minimum flue gas temperature	180 °F (82 °C)
Stack height criteria	Minimum of 1.3 times the building height of the nearest building roof within 100 ft of the stack
Nitrogen oxides limitation	9 ppmdv @ 3% O <sub>2</sub>
Carbon monoxide limitation	50 ppmdv @ 3% O <sub>2</sub>
Other criteria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The boiler is not part of a new major stationary source or major modification to a major stationary source which is subject to preview under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration program.</li> <li>2. The addition of the boiler to an existing source does not make the source subject to the Air Operating Permit program or require a modification in an existing Air Operating Permit.</li> </ol>

## How to review and comment on the proposed order

The public can review and comment on the draft order and fact sheet from February 15, 2006 to March 17, 2006. For copies of the proposed order and fact sheet, contact:

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 Department of Ecology  
 P.O. Box 47600  
 Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
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The proposed order and fact sheet are also available online at [www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/airhome.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/airhome.html) under the General Orders heading.

You must submit written comments to Tom Todd at the above address **by 5:00 p.m., March 17, 2006**. Please reference specific text when possible. Comments may address the following:

- Technical issues
- Accuracy and completeness of information
- Scope of facilities proposed for coverage
- Adequacy of environmental protection and order conditions
- Any other concern that would result from issuing the revised order

This order will be available to applicants in the counties that Ecology's Air Quality Program directly regulates. These counties are: San Juan, Okanogan, Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille, Kittitas, Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, Asotin, Grant, Lincoln, Adams, Whitman, Franklin, and Klickitat counties. Applicants in other areas are regulated by a local air agency and are subject to their notice of construction rules and procedures.

This order is also available to those sources of statewide importance that Ecology directly regulates.

## **Issuing the final General Order**

Ecology will issue the final order after it considers all public comments – probably soon after the public comment period ends. The final order will be effective 30 days later. Ecology will then send a response to everyone who commented on the proposed order.

## **For more information**

Contact:

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*If you need special accommodations or need this document in another format, please contact Tami Dahlgren at (360) 407-6830. If you are a person with a speech or hearing impairment, call 711 or 800-833-6388 for TTY.*