

Microsoft Oxford Data Center Draft Air Permit

Este boletín incluye información sobre el Centro de Datos “Oxford” en Quincy. También está disponible en español. Si usted necesita más información en español, contáctenos al (360) 407-6084 o preguntas@ecy.wa.gov.

Microsoft proposes to build and operate the Microsoft Oxford Data Center in Quincy. The public can comment on this proposal during the public comment period as well as at the public hearing on **July 24, 2014**.

Data centers house the servers that provide email, manage instant messages, and run applications for our computers. The Oxford Data Center is about ¾ mile west of the existing Microsoft Columbia Data Center.

The Permit

An air permit (notice of construction approval order or NOC) is required for this project because the proposed data center includes backup generators. Backup generators emit air pollution when they burn diesel fuel.

Microsoft proposes to install 37 diesel generators, capable of producing 88.75 megawatts of emergency backup electrical power. Microsoft proposes to install air pollution control equipment that reduces emissions more than is required by federal standards. To protect the public from air pollution, the proposed NOC includes the following conditions:

- limit the amount of fuel that can be burned;
- limit the total hours per year the diesel engines can operate;
- test generator engines to make sure air pollution control equipment works;
- coordinate engine maintenance and testing schedules with the closest data centers (Dell and Microsoft Columbia Data Centers).

How Ecology Evaluates Diesel Exhaust

During review of a permit application, Ecology evaluates how much air pollution the project will add. Ecology cannot approve a permit that allows air pollutants to be emitted at levels that cause health problems.

Ecology uses computer models to estimate where air pollution will be carried by the wind as well as the amount of air pollution. Ecology reviews the results from the computer models to assess possible health risks.

The Health Risks of Diesel Exhaust

The toxic air pollutants in diesel exhaust include nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, organic compounds, and tiny particles called diesel exhaust particulates. Ecology evaluated the levels of all these pollutants during the

DATES AND LOCATIONS

Public Comment Period

June 19, 2014–July 29, 2014

Documents available at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/program/s/air/quincydatacenter/index.html>

Quincy City Hall

104 “B” Street SW
Quincy, WA 98848

Quincy Library

208 Central Avenue South
Quincy, WA 98848

Washington Dept of Ecology

Eastern Regional Office
4601 North Monroe Street
Spokane, WA 99205

Submit comments to

Beth Mort
Washington Dept. of Ecology
4601 North Monroe Street
Spokane, WA 99205
(509) 329-3502
beth.mort@ecy.wa.gov

Public Hearing

Thursday, July 24, 2014

Quincy Community Center

115 “F” Street SW
Quincy, WA 98848

Agenda

5 p.m. Meet and Greet
5:30 p.m. Presentations/Q&A
6:30 p.m. Formal Hearing

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permit review process. Diesel exhaust particles and nitrogen dioxide are the pollutants most likely to be produced in high enough amounts to potentially affect health. For more information about the health effects of these pollutants, read Ecology's publication "*Focus on Diesel Exhaust Health Risks*." This is available in English and Spanish.

Community Modeling

Ecology evaluates the emissions from each individual data center as well as the combined emissions from all data centers and other air pollution sources in the area. To do this, a computer model adds any new data center emissions to those from other air pollution sources and determines if the total emissions are likely to be harmful to human health. This computer modeling process is called "community modeling." Community modeling was used because so many data centers are located in Quincy.

Ecology Wants Your Comments!

You may review and comment on the proposed draft air permit through **July 29, 2014**. The public comment period presents an opportunity to have your ideas and comments heard by Ecology. The box on page one provides details about where the documents can be found and how to submit comments.

A public hearing is also being held at the Quincy Community Center (115 "F" Street SW) on **July 24, 2014**. This will be an opportunity to learn about the project, and to voice your comments or concerns. The box on page one provides details about the public hearing.

For ADA accommodations or documents in alternate format, call (509) 329-3502, 711 (relay service), or 877-833-6341 (TTY).

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