

## Small Business Advisor | August 2015

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### You're invited to the 5th annual Governor's Small Business Summit



**SUCCESS** You're invited to the 5th annual  
Governor's  
**small business  
SUMMIT 2015**  
*presented by WEDC and WHEDA\**

Please join Governor Scott Walker, Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch, and leaders in state government for the 5th annual Small Business Summit 2015. Don't miss this opportunity to meet Wisconsin's leadership team involved in job creation. This summit will bring cabinet secretaries and state agencies together with small business owners, entrepreneurs, and innovators to exchange ideas and information. A box lunch with Governor Walker and Lt. Governor Kleefisch will include an update on Wisconsin's business climate and economy.

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**  
8:00AM-4:00PM  
The Plaza Hotel & Suites  
1202 W. Clairemont Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI

Registration is \$50 per person and is non-refundable. Register online with Mastercard, Visa or Discover only. No cash or checks accepted. For event information, an agenda or to register, please go to [www.wheda.com/SmallBizSummit/](http://www.wheda.com/SmallBizSummit/).

**HURRY!** Deadline for registration is August 31, 2015.



## **Public comment period now open on fine particle guidance and policy determination**

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has issued draft guidance on estimating fine particles when applying for air pollution control permits and an update to its air quality modeling guidance. The documents are “Wisconsin Air Dispersion Modeling Guidelines,” “2015 Approach to Dispersion Modeling for Permits,” and “Guidance for Including PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Air Pollution Control Permit Applications.” These documents have been posted to our external website and we are now soliciting comments from stakeholders on the draft guidance for 30 days ending on August 28, 2015. To view the documents and get instructions on making comments, go to:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/news/input/guidance.html>.

Fine particles, also known as PM<sub>2.5</sub>, consist of particulate matter of 2.5 micrometers or less in diameter. Previously, fine particles were treated as a subset of total particulate matter. However, scientific evidence accumulated over the last decade has demonstrated flaws in this assumption.

Fine particles are formed differently than other particle pollution, and instead, show the characteristics of a regional pollutant. A regional pollutant is formed in the atmosphere from other chemicals, and remains suspended in the ambient air for long periods of time, traveling long distances and affecting areas far away from where the precursor pollutants were first emitted. Common precursor pollutants are sulfur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and ammonia. Fine particles may also be emitted directly from the burning of fuel and high temperature industrial processes.

DNR has drafted guidance for estimating direct emissions of fine particles in permit applications. This guidance is based on DNR’s determination that fine particles cannot be thought of as simply a subset of total particulate matter. For any permit application including major sources, fine particle emissions will only be estimated from fuel combustion sources and high temperature industrial operations.

Direct emissions from individual sources have little influence on concentrations in the atmosphere. Emissions of fine particles have remained steady in recent years while ambient concentrations have dropped. Large scale, regional factors like weather patterns, long-range transport and secondary formation play a greater role in ambient air concentrations. The decline of ambient fine particle concentrations correlates closely with national technology improvements such as the reduction of sulfur in fuels as well as reductions in emissions of oxides of nitrogen from industry as well as cars, trucks, other vehicles and mobile equipment.

As a result of this finding, permitting for existing sources, minor new sources and minor modifications will no longer use individual source modeling as a method to determine whether source emissions will cause or exacerbate an exceedance of air quality standards for fine particles. Instead, DNR will use the weight of evidence approach to make the finding as laid out in the supporting documentation attached to the modeling guidance. Wisconsin will continue to follow all USEPA guidance on construction permitting for major PSD sources including requiring submittal of an air quality modeling analysis for direct emissions of PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

## September 11, 2015 deadline approaching for Diesel Truck Idling Reduction Grant Program

The Wisconsin State Energy Office has grant funding available to assist motor carrier owners and operators to reduce diesel truck idling. The grant can reimburse up to 50% of the cost for purchase and installation of idling reduction units.

Idling reduction units provide an alternate source of electricity, heating or cooling instead of relying on the truck's main drive engine, reducing fuel consumption and air pollution.

Eligible grant recipients must reside in Wisconsin and be the owner and operator of a truck with an engine model year 1999 or newer. Applications are being accepted until September 11 at 4:00 pm. Recipients are chosen randomly through a lottery system. For more information and to download required documents, visit the [Wisconsin State Energy Office's Diesel Truck Idling Reduction Grant Program](#) web page or contact Jean Beckwith at (608) 261-2517 or [jean.beckwith@wisconsin.gov](mailto:jean.beckwith@wisconsin.gov).



- To contact the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program staff, call 1-855-889-3021 (toll free) or send an email to [DNRSmallBusiness@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNRSmallBusiness@wisconsin.gov).
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