



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Industrial Growth Allowance Availability

Background information

Portland is a Maintenance Area for Ozone. Industrial Growth Allowances are available for the ozone precursors Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) and oxides of nitrogen (NO_x).

On February 22, 2007, The Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) adopted the Portland-Vancouver Air Quality Maintenance Area (Oregon Portion) And Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS) Ozone Maintenance Plan, as Section 4.50 of the State of Oregon Air Quality Control Program, Volume 2: State Implementation Plan (referred to herein as “Maintenance Plan”). In the Maintenance Plan, subsection 4.50.4.1.2, the EQC established growth allowances for NO_x and VOC for the Portland Air Quality Maintenance Area.

The Maintenance Plan established procedures for the Growth Allowance Program, which are summarized here (see the Maintenance Plan for more detail):

- The initial growth allowances for both NO_x and VOC are 5,000 tons.
- The owner or operator of a proposed major source or major modification may apply to DEQ for an allocation of the growth allowance in lieu of providing an emission offset.
- The growth allowances are made available in 1,000 ton increments.
- The growth allowances are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- If the current growth allowance increment falls below 250 tons, DEQ will conduct an analysis of ozone levels and expected trends to determine if conditions support the release of another 1,000 ton increment.

The currently available Industrial Growth Allowances are:

VOC: As of May 20, 2010, 742 tons are available from the first 1,000 ton increment. Four (4) 1,000 ton increments remain available.

NO_x: As of May 20, 2010, 749 tons are available from the first 1,000 ton increment. Four (4) 1,000 ton increments remain available.

How to apply for an allocation

To apply for an allocation of the growth allowance, please contact DEQ’s Northwest Region Air Quality Permit Coordinator at 503-229-5582.

Northwest Region Office

Air Quality Section

2020 SW 4th Avenue

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Portland, OR 97201

Phone: (503) 229-5263

(800) 452-4011

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Contact: Air Quality Permit

Coordinator

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