

Public Hearing
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Five-Year Rule Review of Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 3745-25,
Emergency Episode and Air Quality Standards

Notice is hereby given that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Air Pollution Control (DAPC) has performed a review of the above referenced rules primarily to satisfy the requirements of Section 106.03 of the Ohio Revised Code (five-year review). The DAPC finds the following rules to be necessary and with need for changes. The DAPC proposes to amend Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rules 3745-25-01, 3745-25-02, 3745-25-03, 3745-25-04 and 3745-25-05 that relate to emergency episodes and air quality standards. The amendments are being proposed to adjust the annual PM_{2.5} ambient air quality standard from 12.0 ug/m³ to 9.0 ug/m³ consistent with U.S. EPA's recent promulgation (89 FR 16202) of the updated standard. Additionally, all rules have been updated to reduce regulatory burden.

Pursuant to Section 121.39 of the Ohio Revised Code, DAPC was required to consult with interested parties affected by the rule before the Division formally adopts them. On June 21, 2024, this rule went out for a 30-day review by interested parties.

The public comment period will run until October 25, 2024. A public hearing on this proposed rulemaking will be held to consider public comments in accordance with Section 119.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. Ohio EPA will be holding an in-person and virtual public hearing on the rules on October 25, 2024 at 10:30am. The in-person hearing will be at the same time and date and will be located at Ohio EPA, Suite 700, 50 W. Town Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. During the hearing, the public may submit written comments on the record about the proposed rules if participating virtually and verbally if participating in person.

Citizens who want to participate virtually must register in advance for the meeting at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2768525640746349662>

Registration for the in-person hearing is not required. Citizens intending to give testimony at the hearing should notify the Ohio EPA Public Interest Center, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049, (614) 644-2160 or by emailing mary.mccarron@epa.ohio.gov. Prior registration will ensure that registrants are heard ahead of those individuals who register at the hearing. Oral testimony may be limited to five minutes, depending on the number of persons testifying. All interested persons are entitled to attend or be represented and to present oral and/or written comments concerning the proposed rule making.

Written testimony can be emailed to DAPC-Comments@epa.ohio.gov or be sent to the attention of Andrew Kollar at the Division of Air Pollution Control, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus Ohio 43216-1049. Written comments may also be submitted to the Hearing Officer at the public hearing. Written testimony will receive the same consideration as oral testimony. All testimony received at the hearing or by close of business on October 25, 2024, will be considered by Ohio EPA prior to final action on this rulemaking proposal. Written comments submitted after this date may be considered as time and circumstances permit.

These rules are available on DAPC's Web page for electronic downloading. The URL is: <http://epa.ohio.gov/dapc/DAPCrules.aspx> and see the information under the "proposed rules" tab. Questions regarding accessing the web site should be directed to William Kenny at 614-644-2039; other questions or comments about these rules should be directed to Andrew Kollar at Ohio EPA, (614) 644-4835, Andrew.kollar@epa.ohio.gov, or mailed to Andrew Kollar, Ohio EPA, Division Air Pollution Control, Lazarus Government Center, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049. Persons submitting comments electronically are encouraged to follow-up with a hard copy via regular mail.

The proposed rules are also accessible on DAPC web page at <https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/air-pollution-control/regulations/proposed-rules/dapc-proposed-rules>.

To request a reasonable accommodation due to a disability, visit <https://epa.ohio.gov/ada>