

**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND STAFF RESPONSES  
FOR PROPOSED REVISION TO SUBCHAPTER 7  
PERMITS FOR MINOR FACILITIES**

**COMMENTS RECEIVED PRIOR TO AND AT THE *JUNE 10, 2015*  
AIR QUALITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Written Comments**

**Trinity Consultants** - Email received on May 7, 2015 from Donald C. Whitney, Managing Consultant

1. **COMMENT:** Mr. Whitney suggests the PBR include all emergency engines, not just electric generating engines. In Mr. Whitney's experience, there are facilities that have fire water pump and flood prevention emergency engines that would benefit from the availability of this PBR.

**RESPONSE:** The Department finds this to be a reasonable suggestion and has updated the proposal accordingly.

**Pioneer Telephone Cooperative** - Email received on June 5, 2015 from Beelie Biehler, Safety Engineer

2. **COMMENT:** Mr. Biehler commented that the construction permit allows the Department to review the emission controls of a project, and that because the EPA certifies these particular engines to meet manufacturer specifications the construction permit should not be necessary.

**RESPONSE:** The Department disagrees. Not all manufacturers obtain certifications from the EPA. The construction permit requirement allows staff the opportunity to review not only the control technologies, but also the potential impacts to ambient pollutant concentrations and rule applicability. The proposed PBR would serve as a mechanism to meet the existing applicable permit requirement with a more limited review, at much lower compliance and administrative costs.

3. **COMMENT:** Mr. Biehler commented that emission inventories on units that run 26 hours per year yield anywhere from 2 to 252 pounds of emissions. He questions the necessity of submitting emission inventories for such low-emitting sources, especially with an approximate cost of filing an emission inventory estimated at over \$200 per unit.

**RESPONSE:** The PBR would reduce the requirement to file an emission inventory from annually to once every three, or most likely in these scenarios, every six years. Staff has also created an alternative inventory format specifically for the telecommunications industry that have multiple towers with emergency generators, which is a simpler method to file.

4. **COMMENT:** Mr. Biehler - "I would hope that, going forward, the end user would be made aware of any permitting requirements at the point of sale so that they could be factored into the total cost of the product." "More importantly I would like to know how the department is going to reach out to the thousands of individuals and organizations that have unpermitted units to get them into compliance."

**RESPONSE:** The Department appreciates the comment and will take it into consideration.

**The Electric Cooperatives of Oklahoma** - Email received on June 9, 2015 from Kenny Sparks, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs.

5. **COMMENT:** Mr. Sparks - "Our members own and operate emergency stand by generators of many types and sizes. Residential, commercial, industrial, hospitals, education facilities, municipal facilities, to name a few of our member classes potentially impacted by the creation of fees required for permitting and or registration of the generators. We do not totally understand the threshold triggering requirement for permitting and or registration. We had assumed the process would involve only those units of substantial size, that are stationary or in a fixed position. We further assumed the generators used for load control and or demand management would be exempt."

**RESPONSE:** Currently OAC 252:100-7-2 describes the requirement for permits for minor facilities, with the only exceptions being de minimis and permit exempt facilities. The Department is proposing to add single family residences and primary and secondary schools to the list of exceptions for obtaining an air quality permit. The Department is proposing to define emergency engine as: "a stationary engine used to resume essential operations or ensure safety during sudden and unexpected occurrences including but not limited to loss of electrical power, fire, and/or flood."

#### **Oral Comments**

**Beelie Biehler** - Safety engineer, Pioneer Telephone Coop.

6. **COMMENT:** Mr. Biehler restated his previously submitted comments.

**RESPONSE:** See above

#### **COMMENTS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE *OCTOBER 14, 2015* AIR QUALITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

There have been no comments received from the public at this time.