

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission will hold public hearings at Little Rock on October 4, 2005, to receive comments on proposed revisions to the Commission's Regulation 23 (Hazardous Waste Code) and Regulation 29 (Brownfields Redevelopment). The hearings will be held in the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality's (ADEQ) Building D Training Room, 8101 Interstate Highway 30. The Regulation 23 hearing will begin at 2:00 p.m., and the Regulation 29 hearing will begin immediately after the Regulation 23 hearing ends.

Commission authority for revising Regulations 23 and 29 is found in the Arkansas Code, Annotated, Section 8-7-209 (b) (1).

Proposed changes to Regulation 23 include incorporation of new Federal rules and revisions published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) between April 22, 2004, and August 5, 2005. These changes include extended waste accumulation times for facilities participating in EPA's National Performance Track program; addition of specific wastes from dye and food colorant production processes as hazardous waste; adoption of a national uniform hazardous waste manifesting system; increased flexibility in the selection of analytical procedures used to measure the concentrations of hazardous wastes and substances; and the adoption of mercury-containing devices under the state and federal universal waste management program.

Proposed revisions to the state-specific rules in Regulation 23 include a correction to the definition of flammable compressed gases and oxidizers as ignitable hazardous wastes; deletion of the Notification of Regulated Waste Activity Form; and a correction to the fee schedule for renewal of post-closure permits for hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities.

Proposed changes to Regulation 29 include incorporation of the provisions of Arkansas Act 1164 of 2005, providing for the eligibility and inclusion of abandoned residential properties in the state Brownfields Program.

A complete listing of the proposed changes to Regulations 23 and 39 can be found on the Drafts of Proposed Regulations page of the ADEQ's Internet web site at the following Internet address: www.adeq.state.ar.us/regs/drafts/draft_regs.htm .

Copies of the proposed changes to both regulations are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the ADEQ's Little Rock office in the Customer Service Division, located in Building D, 8101 Interstate 30, or ADEQ information depositories located in public libraries at Arkadelphia, Batesville, Blytheville, Camden, Clinton, Crossett, El Dorado, Fayetteville, Forrest City, Fort Smith, Harrison, Helena, Hope, Hot Springs, Jonesboro, Little Rock, Magnolia, Mena, Monticello, Mountain Home, Pocahontas, Russellville, Searcy, Stuttgart, Texarkana, and West Memphis; in campus libraries at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and the University of Central Arkansas at Conway; or in the Arkansas State Library located on the State Capitol grounds at Little Rock.

Oral and written comments will be accepted at the hearings, but written comments are preferred in the interest of accuracy. In addition, written and electronic mail comments will be considered if received no later than 4:30 p.m. October 18, 2005. Written comments should be delivered or mailed to: Susan Margrave; Media & Public Affairs Officer, Public Outreach and Assistance Division, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, 8101 Interstate 30, P.O. Box 8913, Little Rock, AR 72219-8913. Electronic mail comments, including the name and mailing address of the sender, should be sent to: reg-comment@adeq.state.ar.us .

For specific questions concerning the proposed revisions, contact Tom Ezell in the ADEQ Hazardous Waste Division; telephone 501-682-0854; e-mail hw-help@adeq.state.ar.us .

Dated August 31, and September 1 and 2,

Marcus C. Devine, Director,
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality