



## Fact Sheet

# Rule for Limiting the Emissions of Particulate Matter (40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 49 Section 125)

### Federal Air Rules for Indian Reservations in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington

**What is the FARR?** The Federal Air Rules for Indian Reservations in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, also called the FARR, is a set of air quality regulations established under the Clean Air Act. The FARR creates rules to manage activities that cause air pollution.

The FARR applies to all residents (both tribal members and non-tribal members) and businesses located within the exterior boundaries of reservations in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The ownership status of land on the reservation does not affect how the rules apply.

**What will the FARR do?** The FARR will protect human health and the environment for 200,000 people on reservations in the Pacific Northwest. The FARR will also:

- Establish federal air quality rules where EPA-approved state or tribal air quality programs do not exist
- Make air quality standards on reservations consistent with standards off of reservations
- Build capacity for tribes to develop tribal air programs.

#### Fact Sheet Series

The FARR includes 16 rules that address various air quality issues:

- 49.122 Partial Delegation of Administrative Authority to a Tribe
- 49.124 Visible Emissions
- 49.125 Particulate Matter
- 49.126 Fugitive Particulate Matter
- 49.127 Woodwaste Burners
- 49.128 Particulate Matter Emissions from Wood Products Industry Sources
- 49.129 Sulfur Dioxide
- 49.130 Sulfur Content of Fuels
- 49.131 Open Burning
- 49.132 General Open Burning Permits
- 49.133 Agricultural Burning Permits
- 49.134 Forestry and Silvicultural Burning Permits
- 49.135 Emissions Detrimental to Public Health or Welfare
- 49.136 [Reserved]
- 49.137 Air Pollution Episodes
- 49.138 Registration of Air Pollution Sources and Report of Emissions
- 49.139 Rule for Non-Title V Operating Permits

### What is the purpose of this rule?

The Rule for Limiting Emissions of Particulate Matter sets limits on the amount of particulate matter that can be produced by certain air pollution sources that operate within an Indian reservation. Particulate matter is a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets that is in the air.

### Why is this rule important?

High levels of particulate matter in the air can affect human health. Particulate matter can reach deep into the lungs and cause respiratory problems. For example, particulate matter is linked to aggravated asthma, chronic bronchitis, and premature death.

### To whom does this rule apply?

This rule is for each of the 39 Indian reservations in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington specified in the FARR. This rule applies to anyone who owns or operates an air pollution source that is a combustion source stack, a wood-fired boiler, a process source stack, or any other stack that produces, or could produce, particulate matter that is released into the air. A stack is the place in an air pollution source where the air pollutants are transferred to the air. Chimneys, pipes, vents, or ducts are examples of stacks. A combustion source is an air pollution source that burns a solid, liquid, or gaseous fuel. An incinerator is also a combustion source.

This rule does **not** apply to:

- Open burning
- Woodwaste burners
- Furnaces and boilers that are used only for space heating and that has a rated heat input capacity of less than 400,000 British thermal units (Btus) per hour
- Non-commercial smokehouses
- Sweat houses or lodges
- Mobile sources, such as motor vehicles, non-road vehicles and engines, locomotives, and marine (water) vehicles.

**What are the requirements of this rule?**

This rule sets limits on levels of particulate matter that can be produced by certain air pollution sources. The rule describes the limits for three types of air pollution sources: combustion source stacks; wood-fired boilers; and any other stack, including process source stacks.

- **Limits for combustion source stacks (except wood-fired boilers).** Particulate matter from a combustion source stack cannot exceed an average of 0.23 grams per dry standard cubic meter (0.1 grains per dry standard cubic foot), corrected to 7 percent oxygen during any 3-hour period.
- **Limits for wood-fired boilers.** Particulate matter from a wood-fired boiler stack cannot exceed an average of 0.46 grams per dry standard cubic meter (0.2 grains per dry standard cubic foot), corrected to 7 percent oxygen during any 3-hour period.
- **Limits for process source stacks or any other stack.** Particulate matter from a process source stack or any other stack not described above cannot exceed an average of 0.23 grams per dry standard cubic meter (0.1 grains per dry standard cubic foot) during any 3-hour period.

This rule also specifies the procedure (also called the reference method) that an air pollution source must use to show that the particulate matter limits are being met. The reference method that the rule specifies is called EPA Reference Method 5. This method is described in 40 *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 60 Appendix A.

**When does this rule take effect?**

This rule is effective June 7, 2005. The final rule was published in the *Federal Register* on April 8, 2005 (67 FR 18074).

**Where can the public get more information about this rule?**

The final rule is available at the EPA Region 10 FARR website [www.epa.gov/r10earth/FARR.htm](http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/FARR.htm). The FARR website provides additional background information on the rule and implementation of the FARR. The FARR Hotline is available at 1-800-424-4EPA to provide information, permit forms and respond to questions.