

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

IN THE MATTER OF COMPLIANCE BY )  
Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation ) Order No. DE 01AQIS-3285  
Mead Works ) Amendment #1  
With Chapter 70.94 RCW and the Rules and )  
Regulations of the Department of Ecology )

To: Mr. J Greg Gorton  
Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation  
Mead Works  
2111 E Hawthorne Road  
Mead, WA 99021-9517

RCW 70.94.011, RCW 70.94.331(5), and RCW 70.94.141(3) provide the Department of Ecology the authority to issue orders to enforce the Washington Clean Air Act. WAC 175-475 sets statewide ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide (CO), which are equivalent to federal health based standards.

Spokane was already designated nonattainment for CO when the 1990 Amendments to the Clean Air Act were enacted on November 15, 1990. Spokane was classified "moderate" because the area had higher CO concentrations than the standards set by WAC 175-475. Because of violations of the CO standard in 1995, Spokane was reclassified to "serious" and required to submit a revised State Implementation Plan (SIP) that met additional nonattainment requirements to ensure that the area would meet the CO standard. The Department updated the SIP for Spokane to meet these requirements. As part of this update, the Department requested that Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation model CO concentrations from its Mead Works, which is located within the Spokane CO nonattainment area.

After evaluating the air quality modeling results, the Department found that modeling predicted that the highest concentrations would near the CO standard. Therefore, the Department required via order No. DEAQIS-3285, that Kaiser set an ambient air monitoring station at the location of the highest modeled CO concentration to verify continuing attainment of the CO standard.

In December 2000, Kaiser fully curtailed its primary aluminum production operations at its Mead Work due to market and power availability conditions. In October 2001, the Department ordered Kaiser to begin ambient air monitoring for CO at the highest modeled CO concentration location. Due to the continued full curtailment of the facility, the Department approved a nearby existing ambient air monitoring location of Kaiser's as being satisfactory for gathering background ambient CO concentration levels until primary aluminum production was resumed. An ambient CO monitor began operation at the Fairview Station in May 2001.

For these reasons, and in accordance with RCW 70.94.141(3), IT IS ORDERED that Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation's Mead Works take the following actions:

1. After operation of the ambient CO monitor at the Fairview Station through April 2003, exercise, if desired, the option to terminate the collection of data at this Station.

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2. Within 30 days of the date of the resumption of primary aluminum production at the Mead Works, request the Department's approval of a site located at the top of the hill lying between Fairview Road to the northwest and Gerlach Road to the southeast for a CO monitoring station.
3. Within 60 days of the date of the Department's approval of a site, install and maintain an ambient CO monitoring station at the site approved by the Department. The monitor shall be operated and maintained as described in the Washington State Department of Ecology Air Monitoring Quality Assurance Plan and Procedures Manual #95-201.
4. Report CO monitoring data with its monthly air monitoring report. Any excursions above the CO standards shall be reported to the Department by E-mail within a week of their occurrence.

Failure to comply with this Order may result in the issuance of civil penalties or other actions, whether administrative or judicial, to enforce the terms of this Order.

This Order may be appealed. Your appeal must be filed with the Pollution Control Hearings Board, PO Box 40903, Olympia, Washington 98504-0903 within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this Order.

Your appeal must also be sent to the Department of Ecology c/o the Industrial Section, PO Box 47600, Olympia, Washington 98504-7600. Your appeal alone will not stay the effectiveness of this Order. Stay requests must be submitted in accordance with RCW 43.21B.320. These procedures are consistent with ch.43.21B RCW.

Dated this 9th day of April 2003 at Lacey, Washington.



Carol Kraege, P.E.  
Industrial Section Manager  
Solid and Financial Assistance Program