

PUBLIC NOTICE OF NEW AIR QUALITY PERMIT APPROVAL AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD WITH OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS

**Becton, Dickinson and Company (BD)
7345 E. Valencia Road
Tucson AZ, 85747**

Product Sterilization Facility

**Pima County Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ)
33 N. Stone Avenue, Suite 700
Tucson, AZ 85737**

The Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ) proposes to issue a Class II Air Quality Permit to Becton, Dickinson and Company (BD). BD proposes to construct and operate a new product sterilization facility at 7345 E. Valencia Road, Tucson, Arizona. Emissions of hazardous air pollutants from the proposed facility will consist primarily of ethylene oxide (EO) CAS No. 75-21-8 resulting from the use of EO as a sterilant in the sterilization of medical and surgical equipment. Ethylene oxide is a colorless and flammable gas with a faintly sweet odor. The facility will also operate 3 boilers and two emergency generators as ancillary equipment. This action is authorized pursuant to Title 17 of the Pima County Code (PCC) 17.13.010.I – Action on Application; and 17.13.210 – Public Participation and Notification Requirements for Class II Permits, for sources subject to NESHAP Subpart O – Ethylene Oxide Emission Standards for Sterilization Facilities.

Title 17 Requirements:

PDEQ finds that the proposed permit, application on file, and the controlled emissions meet the requirements of Title 17 and:

- Do not constitute a “major source” within the meaning defined in PCC 17.04.340.A.128;
- Will neither cause nor contribute to a violation of any ambient air quality standard;
- Are adequately protective of the public’s health, safety, and general welfare over a potential lifetime of exposure; and
- Proposes adequate provisions to demonstrate compliance with all local, county, and state, and federal laws.

The proposed permit requires BD to install and operate chemi-sorption dry bed control systems to effectively reduce Fugitive EO emissions to a level adequately protective of the public’s health and provides means to monitor and determine compliance with the allowed emissions.

Air Quality Impacts:

The air quality analysis submitted with the applications demonstrates that the impact from the proposed project will remain approximately 5 times below the safe ambient air concentration level

of $2.0 \times 10^{-2} \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ prescribed by the EPA IRIS database and determined to be adequately protective of the public health.

Public Comment Process:

The public comment period for this proposed action will open on September 17, 2021. Any interested person may submit written comments on the proposed permit during the public comment period. Persons who submit comments to PDEQ should state:

- The action you wish PDEQ to take, including specific references to the portions of the proposed permit you believe should be changed, if any; and
- The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow PDEQ to evaluate the merits of your position.

All comments received during the comment period will be included in the administrative record and will be available to the public. The public comment period for the proposed permit ends will end on December 17, 2021 at 5:00 pm. To be considered, written comments should be postmarked no later than such date and time.

Comments should be submitted to:

Rupesh Patel, Air Program Manager
Pima County Department of Environmental Quality
33 N Stone Avenue, Suite 700
Tucson, AZ 85701
e-mail comments to: Air.permits@pima.gov

In addition, PDEQ proposes to hold two Open House meetings on the following dates, times and locations:

October 6, 2021 Open House (Virtual meeting planned) – 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Access to this meeting will be made available on our PDEQ Public Notice webpage:
<https://bit.ly/37gdbWP>. Alternatively, you can register by calling (520) 724-7400.

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October 27, 2021 Open House (In-person meeting planned) – 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Lauffer Middle School Cafeteria – 5385 E. Littleton Road, Tucson, AZ 85756
We encourage all in-person attendees to be vaccinated for COVID-19.
Masks will be required.

The open house is an informal opportunity for you to learn about the proposed air quality permit. There will be no tape or transcript of the informal open house, and statements made or questions asked at the public meeting will not be considered comments.

The Public Hearing is a formal opportunity for you to submit oral or written statements and data concerning the proposed permit. The Public Hearing will be held at the following date, time and location:

November 3, 2021 – 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (Virtual Hearing planned)

Access to this meeting will be made available on our PDEQ Public Notice webpage:

<https://bit.ly/37gdbWP>. Alternatively, you can register by calling (520) 724-7400.

The Presiding Officer may set reasonable limits on the time allowed for oral statements. A written transcript of the public hearing will be made available afterwards. The public hearing will be conducted according to the rules and procedures of 40 CFR § 124.12.

Within 30 days after a permit has been issued, any person who filed comments on the proposed permit or participated in a public hearing, may petition the air quality hearing board in accordance with PCC 17.04.210 and A.R.S. 49-482 to review such permit decision. The petition shall include a statement of the reasons supporting review, including a demonstration that any issues raised during the public comment period including any public hearing have not been satisfied. Where appropriate, the petition should include a showing that the objection is based on:

- (1) A finding of fact or conclusion of law which is clearly erroneous, or
- (2) An exercise of discretion or an important policy consideration which the hearing board should, in its discretion, review.

All data submitted by the applicant is available as part of the administrative record. The administrative record, including copies of the proposed permit, original and supplemental applications, fact sheet, and other supporting documents may be viewed between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at PDEQ, 33 N Stone Ave, Tucson, AZ. Most documents in the administrative record may also be obtained on-line at [PDEQ's website](#). For more information, contact Natalie Shepp at (520) 724-6885 or by e-mail at air.permits@pima.gov.

PDEQ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or age in its programs or activities in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Further, any person who is in need of special services (e.g., written material in large type, signer for the hearing impaired, or for free assistance in Spanish), please contact PDEQ's Environmental Justice Program Manager, Natalie Shepp, 33 N. Stone Avenue, Suite 700, Tucson, Arizona, 85701, Phone (520) 724-6885, email natalie.shepp@pima.gov.

El Departamento del Condado de Pima de Calidad Ambiental no discrimina en base de la raza, el color, el origen nacional, el sexo, la religión, discapacidad, o la edad en sus programas o actividades de acuerdo a las leyes y regulaciones aplicables. Además, cualquier persona que esté necesitando los servicios especiales (p.ej., material escrito en letra grande, intérpretes de lenguaje con señas, o para obtener asistencia gratuita en español), por favor contacte a la encargada del Programa de Justicia Ambiental del Departamento de Calidad Ambiental del Condado de Pima, Natalie Shepp, 33 N. Stone Avenue, Oficina 700, Tucson, Arizona, 85701, teléfono (520) 724-6885, email (correo electrónico) natalie.shepp@pima.gov.