

Small Business The Advocate

For and about small businesses affected by environmental regulations

Healthy Environment. Strong Business. Good Sense.

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Regulatory Roundup

Title V—Federal Operating Permits

Basic site information applications for the Title V Federal Operating Permits were due February 1, 1998. In general, Title V will not apply to most small businesses.

It primarily applies to major sources that have the potential to emit large amounts of hazardous air pollutants, volatile organic compounds, and nitrogen oxides.

The following minor sources will be subject to Title V by December 9, 2000, unless the EPA perma-

nently exempts these categories:

- commercial sterilizers
- chromium electroplaters not using fume suppressants
- perchloroethylene dry cleaners
- secondary lead smelters

emission limitations based on the Environmental Protection Agency's Control Techniques Guidelines. Shipbuilding and ship repair surface-coating operations in the Houston-Galveston and Beaumont-Port Arthur areas that have 25 tons or

more of volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions may be affected.

Additional emissions limitations may also apply to

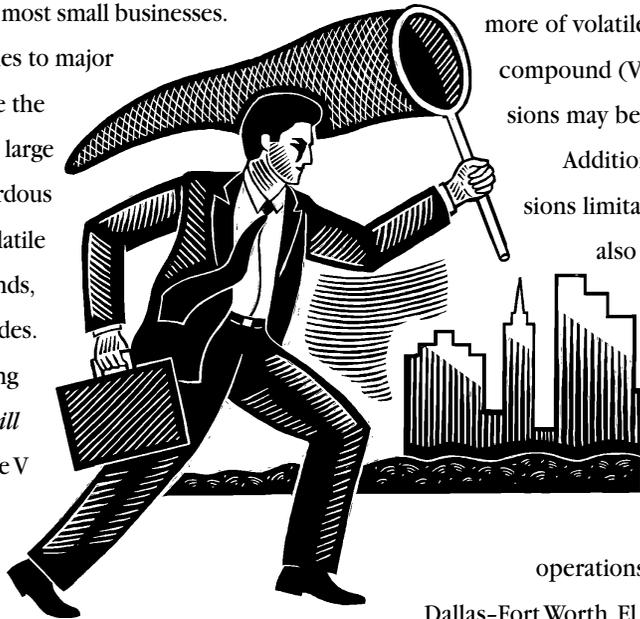
wood furniture manufacturing surface-coating

operations in the

Dallas-Fort Worth, El Paso,

Houston-Galveston, and Beaumont-Port Arthur areas that emit more than 25 tons per year of VOCs.

The comment period for these rules ended in January. The rules are expected to be adopted in March.



Dual-Chamber Incinerators

Many small businesses burn waste in dual-chamber incinerators under Exemption 106.491 (formerly Standard Exemption 2). The TNRCC is reviewing this exemption to increase protectiveness and clarify wording. Comments are being accepted through April 20, 1998. Call the SBAP for more information.

Foundries

The TNRCC is modifying Exemption 106.321 (formerly Standard Exemption 58) to allow the use of previously excluded metallurgical methods. The production of ductile iron without a permit and the use of flux in aluminum foundries will now be allowed under the terms of the exemption.

In another change, protectiveness has been improved by preventing the use of certain compounds in refrigeration processes. The comment period on these revisions ended in February, and the new provisions are scheduled to take effect in April. ■

Used Oil Filters

Used oil filter generators and collection centers may now accumulate up to 330 gallons (six 55-gallon drums) of used oil filters (UOFs) before needing to register with the TNRCC as a UOF storage facility. This change became effective December 29, 1997.

Surface-Coating Processes

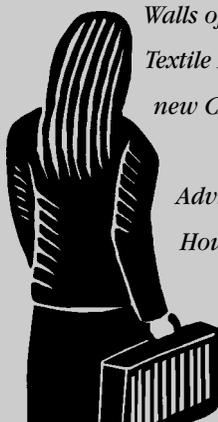
New requirements for shipbuilding, ship repair, and wood furniture operations have been proposed and would add

Compliance Advisory Panel Welcomes New Members

The SBAP's Compliance Advisory Panel (CAP) has two new members. Sarah K. Walls of Cantey and Hanger, LLP, in Fort Worth and Jean Warnke of the Textile Maintenance Association of Texas in Houston were named as new CAP members last October.

Sarah Walls is former co-chair of the Fort Worth Small Business Advisory Committee, and Jean Warnke is current co-chair of the Houston-Galveston Small Business Advisory Committee.

The CAP oversees the SBAP's activities. Members are appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the House, or TNRCC chairman. ■



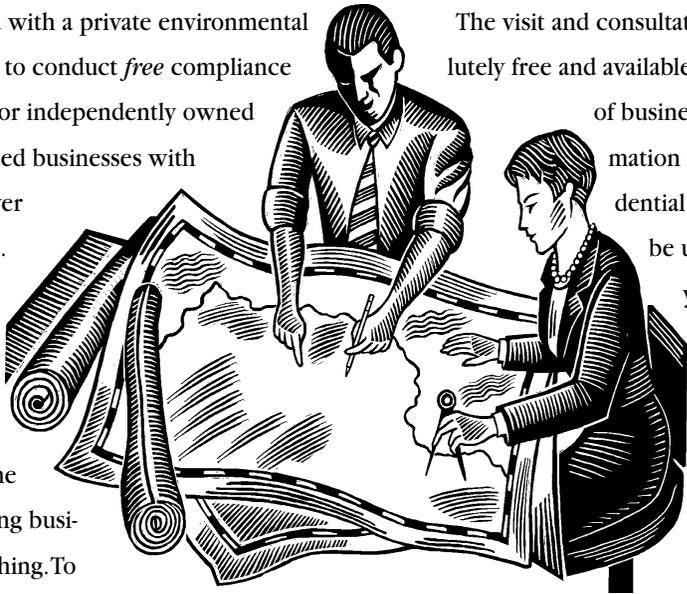
Improve Your Compliance—Free Site Visits for Small Businesses!

Confused by environmental regulations? Not sure if your facility is in compliance? Well, there is a new tool to help you. The Small Business Assistance Program has contracted with a private environmental consultant to conduct *free* compliance site visits for independently owned and operated businesses with 100 or fewer employees.

These visits are available statewide and cost the participating businesses nothing. To date, 99 businesses have taken advantage of this unique opportunity to improve their compliance including dry cleaners, auto repair shops, wood manufacturing facilities, metal finishers, and foundries.

These consultants often find that businesses lack documentation, fail to keep proper records for waste, or have questions about stormwater regulations.

The visit and consultation are absolutely free and available to all types of businesses. All information is kept confidential and cannot be used against your business in a TNRCC enforcement action. For more information or to schedule a site visit, call the SBAP at 1-800-447-2827. You can also check out our Web site: www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/exec/small_business



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UPCOMING EVENTS:

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|--|---------------|
| San Antonio Manufacturers Association Air Quality Meeting | Apr 2 |
| Metal Finishing Workshop—Dallas, Houston, El Paso | Apr 7, 9, 17 |
| Fort Worth Small Business Advisory Committee Meeting | Apr 8 |
| Auto Body and Auto Repair Workshops—Tyler, El Paso, San Antonio | Apr 8, 22, 29 |
| Dry Cleaning Workshop—Houston | May |
| TNRCC Environmental Trade Fair—Austin | May 4-6 |
| Auto Body and Auto Repair Workshops—Corpus Christi, and Midland/Odessa | May 6, 13 |
| Dallas Small Business Advisory Committee | May 12 |

Call SBAP at 1-800-447-2827 for details.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, MC 106
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