

Diesel In Oregon: Public Health Risks & Opportunities

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Moderator: Jennifer Coleman

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Environmental health

ABSTRACT: The latest national models of air toxics, released in 2015, suggest that diesel exhaust is a significant air pollutant in 28 Oregon counties. New engines, which can eliminate as much as 95% of pollutants, are estimated to return \$17 in health benefits for every dollar invested. What will it take for Oregon to reap health benefits by accelerating diesel engine upgrades? This session will explore diesel pollution in Oregon and the implications for health equity, emerging science on diesel health effects, and the range of policy options being considered to address diesel in Oregon.

OBJECTIVE(S):

- Identify diesel hot-spots with demographic overlays using a mapping tool;
- Define established and emerging health effects of diesel exposure;
- Assess the current conditions of diesel pollution as a public health concern in Oregon;
- Evaluate policy solutions to address diesel in Oregon

PANEL ABSTRACT 1: The current status of diesel pollution in Oregon: Brendon Haggerty will demonstrate a mapping tool using newly released data to identify the demographics of diesel pollution hot-spots. The presentation will include discussion of equity implications and disproportionate impacts of diesel on communities of color.

PANEL ABSTRACT 2: Health implications of diesel exposure: Matt Hoffman will discuss the current science on how diesel affects heart and lung health and diesel as a carcinogen. Emerging science: Susan Katz will discuss emerging evidence of non cancer effects of diesel particulate matter that may be occurring at current levels of air pollution, including effects on the nervous system, immune system and reproduction. The presentation will include discussion of Oregon's health benchmarks for diesel and how current ambient concentrations correlate with health risk.

PANEL ABSTRACT 3: Policy options to accelerate diesel upgrades: Jen Coleman will discuss the national, regional and state regulatory landscape for diesel and present Oregon's options for accelerating diesel upgrades in order to reap public health benefits.

PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION:

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