

Summary of Oregon and Multnomah County's Regulations of Chemicals in Cleaning Products

Website: <http://www.sustainableoregon.net>

Summary

- 1. Executive Order 00-07.** On May 17, 2000, Oregon Governor Kitzhaber issued [Executive Order 00-07](#) in which the State of Oregon committed to developing and promoting policies and programs that will help Oregon meet its goal of becoming sustainable. The EO directs the Department of Administrative Services to create the Sustainable Supplier Council and together they are charged with the responsibility of establishing sustainable purchasing policies for five broad product categories including cleaning products and coatings.
- 2. Oregon Sustainability Act.** In 2001, the State Legislature passed the [Oregon Sustainability Act](#) that established the Sustainability Board and directed it to develop and promote policies and programs that will assist Oregon in meeting its sustainability goals including ensuring that state purchasing decisions take into account potential environmental impacts.
- 3. Executive Order 03-03.** On June 17, 2003, Governor Kulongoski issued [Executive Order 03-03](#) that directs the Sustainability Board to issue guidance to assist state agencies in achieving sustainability.
- 4. State Agency Guidance for Implementing Executive Order 03-03.** The Oregon Sustainability Board issued the [State Agency Guidance for Implementing Executive Order 03-03](#) to help state agencies determine how they can best contribute to the State's goal of sustainability. Included in the recommended state actions is the purchase of environmentally preferable cleaning products and coatings.
- 5. Oregon Request for Proposal for Janitorial Supplies.** Oregon recently issued a Request for Proposal for Janitorial Supplies, Industrial Paper and Related Services (RFP) that, among other things, specifies environmental requirements for cleaning products. In effect, Oregon requires that the chemical based cleaners either have Green Seal certification or recognition by the EPA Design for the Environment. For products that are not certified by Green Seal or recognized by DfE, Oregon indicates a preference for products that are the least toxic, readily biodegradable, and which have minimal and recyclable packaging.

The **Oregon RFP** also specifies that all paper products shall be chlorine free and shall contain a minimum amount of post consumer recycled content based on the product category.

The **Oregon RFP** is issued on behalf of the Western States Contracting Alliance (WSCA) and members of the Oregon Cooperative Purchasing Program, Members of the WSCA include Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Multnomah County, Oregon

Summary

1. Background. In September 2005, Multnomah County, Oregon passed Resolution 05-154 by which the County adopted a green cleaning policy. In issuing the resolution, the County committed to phase-in sustainable general purpose cleaners and disinfectant cleaners by the end of 2006, and sustainable floor care and laundry cleaning products by the end of 2007, using standards developed by Green Seal as guidance.

2. Contract. Pursuant to Resolution 05-154 the County issued a contract for green cleaning products that specifies the following:

- The County's first choice for award is products with Green Seal certification. The contract specifies the Green Seal Standard for Institutional Cleaners (GS-37); the Green Seal Standard for Floor Care Products (GS-40); and the Green Seal Standard for Powdered Laundry Bleach (GC-11).
- If Green Seal certification for a product is not available, the County's second choice for award is products formulated under the EPA's Design for the Environment Formulator Initiative.
- For products that are not certified by Green Seal or EPA's Design for the Environment, the County has a preference for products that :
 - o Are the least toxic product available for the given application;
 - o Are readily biodegradable;
 - o Have a minimal and recyclable packaging; and
 - o Effectively and efficiently clean soils and surfaces in its category