Proposed Rule Changes for SWCAA 491
Emission Standards and Controls for Sources Emitting Gasoline Vapors

SWCAA 491 “Emission Standards and Controls for Sources Emitting Gasoline Vapors” are the regulations with which the Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA) regulates the emission of air contaminants from gasoline dispensing facilities (GDFs) within the jurisdiction of SWCAA. The purpose of the regulations is to prevent violations of federal, state and local air standards and to implement the Washington Clean Air Act (Chapter 70.94 RCW).

SWCAA is proposing to update SWCAA 491 to allow removal of Onboard Refueling Vapor Recovery (ORVR) incompatible Stage II vapor recovery systems in 2020 and require it by 2023. Removal of ORVR compatible systems would be allowed in 2023. Removal of Stage II vapor recovery systems could result in minor increases in emissions at some stations. To minimize any emission increases due to the removal of Stage II vapor recovery systems, the proposed rules would require installation of low drip nozzles at most GDFs, and low permeation hoses at large volume GDFs (over 1.4 million gallons of annual throughput). Testing and reporting requirements are also outlined in the proposal.

An electronic version of the proposed rule can be viewed at www.swcleanair.org/regs/proposedrules.asp and physical copies can be viewed at the SWCAA office located at 11815 NE 99th Street, Suite 1294 in Vancouver, Washington during business hours, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Phone (360) 574-3058.

The public comment period for the proposed rule change will begin on November 6, 2019 and close on December 6, 2020. Comments can be submitted in writing, prior to the close date, to the above address or emailed to info@swcleanair.org. A public hearing for the proposed rule changes will be held at SWCAA’s office beginning at 6:00 pm on December 4, 2020. SWCAA intends to submit the proposed rules for consideration for adoption by the Board at the January 2, 2020 board meeting. The Board meeting will be held at SWCAA’s office at 3pm.