



Statement from EPA Regional Administrator KC Becker received by PEER via email from EPA on 7/14/22

From: Mylott, Richard <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>
Date: Thu, Jul 14, 2022 at 1:45 PM
Subject: EPA report on Colorado air permitting program for minor sources
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Today, EPA Region 8 released a report presenting the results of our review of a hotline complaint submitted to EPA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) regarding specific concerns with air permitting programs for minor sources implemented by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). In this review, EPA Region 8 identified ways in which the implementation of CDPHE's minor new source review (NSR) permit program has been inconsistent with the requirements in Colorado's State Implementation Plan (SIP) and provided recommendations for actions to address these concerns.

To access the report: <https://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/epa-report-public-employees-environmental-responsibility-hotline-complaint-no-2021>

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EPA appreciates the willingness of those who step forward and call attention to opportunities to improve environmental programs. Improving Colorado's air quality is critical to EPA's and CDPHE's mission, and the steps being made to do so will benefit our health and our ability to address climate change. We must remain vigilant and maintain an unyielding commitment to this challenge going forward.

EPA recognizes CDPHE is making significant strides in strengthening its air quality programs, including several changes to improve the evaluation and permitting of minor sources. These include new processes and guidance, increased staffing, and improved coordination across teams. We are also encouraged CDPHE is engaging directly with the public to enhance transparency and get feedback on additional refinements to program performance.