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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

September 17, 2007

Dear Autobody Shop Owner,

This letter is to inform you of pending Federal legislation targeted at your industry. The EPA has published the Area Source Rule for Autobody Refinishing. This rule would require many important changes to your facility, among them are the following requirements:

- All shop (not office) personnel would need to complete training in the proper use of refinish materials and to be certified by a national certification body, such as I-CAR and ASE, in order to buy and use auto refinish materials.
- All shops would need to have a filtered spray booth, and all spraying of coatings would need to be done in the spray booth or in a similar filtered enclosure, such as a prep station.
- All spraying of coatings would need to be done with an HVLP spray gun, or one with equivalent transfer efficiency.
- All shops would need to have an enclosed spray gun cleaner.

These are all in addition to the Texas requirement of having an air authorization. The new Federal rule will supersede several of the current TCEQ requirements concerning equipment specifications and work practices since they will be more stringent. Meeting TCEQ's current regulations may not necessarily mean that you will meet the new Federal requirements. The comment period for this rule is until 10/17/07. Submit comments on this rule, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0526, by one of the following methods:

- www.regulations.gov. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
- E-mail: a-and-r-docket@epa.gov
- Fax: 202-566-1741.
- Mail: Air and Radiation Docket, Environmental Protection Agency, Mailcode 6102T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460.

If submitting comments by mail, please include a total of two copies. EPA requests that a separate copy also be sent to:

Mr. Warren Johnson, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Sector Policies and Programs Division, Natural Resources and Commerce Group (E143-03), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711, telephone (919) 541-5124, or e-mail at johnson.warren@epa.gov. In addition, please mail a copy of your comments on the information collection provisions to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of

Management and Budget (OMB), Attn: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th St. NW, Washington, DC 20503.

More information and a copy of the proposed rule can be found at:

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3/fr_notices/paintstrpng_prop090607.pdf and

http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/area/auto/autobody_area.html or by calling TCEQ's Small Business and Local Government Assistance Program at 1-800-447-2827.