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Updates on facilities progressing through Cleaner Air Oregon

The Lane Regional Air Protection Agency has updated the progress of facilities moving through the Cleaner Air Oregon program. Below is a brief description of the updates. View relevant documents and full details by visiting each facility's specific webpage.

J.H. Baxter & CO.

<https://www.lrapa.org/327/JH-Baxter-Co---Eugene-Plant>

Since June of 2021, J.H. Baxter & Co. (Baxter) made progress finalizing liquid sampling data taken in February and June 2021, as well as made headway on source-testing. (Source-testing, aka "stack-testing", is a process that directly measures air emissions from multiple points throughout the facility. This testing is useful to estimate the type and quantity of emissions more accurately.)

On August 5, 2021, the facility submitted a letter to LRAPA explaining the delays in the liquid sample results. (Liquid sampling is a method of measuring the type and quantity of chemicals in the liquids of a facility's process. This sampling is useful to estimate the type and quantity of chemicals in air emissions more accurately.) The letter explains in full, but to state it simply: liquid sampling is a delicate sampling method and extra steps have been taken for Baxter's samples to assure the data acquired from them is accurate and representative of Baxter's processes. Completing these extra steps has extended the time needed for independent third-party laboratories to finish analyzing due to a large demand and heavy workloads across the lab analysis industry.

On August 6, 2021, the facility submitted their source-testing protocol for the carbon adsorption unit, penta stack, and ammonia scrubber. This protocol is a plan detailing how an independent third-party company will conduct source-testing at Baxter. LRAPA reviewed this plan, requested clarification, and added requirements or changes to it. Baxter incorporated LRAPA's feedback and submitted a revised source-testing protocol for the ammonia scrubber on September 8, 2021. This plan was approved by LRAPA on September 10, and source-testing of the ammonia scrubber occurred on September 22 and 23, 2021.

On September 10, 2021, Baxter submitted a summary table of all validated liquid sample data. This is preliminary data but is useful to LRAPA and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to further agency work on Baxter ahead of receiving the full liquid sampling lab report from the independent third-party laboratories.

In October, source-testing is planned for the carbon adsorption unit, penta stack, and additional permanent total enclosure (PTE) verification. PTE verification will demonstrate and confirm that assumptions made in certain emission inventory estimations are correct.

Seneca Sustainable Energy, LLC.

<https://www.lrapa.org/328/Seneca-Sustainable-Energy-LLC-SSE>

On September 8th, 2021, LRAPA hosted an informational community meeting on Seneca Sustainable Energy, LLC (SSE). This meeting was initially scheduled to be a hybrid meeting with in-person participation possible at the Eugene Public Library, as well as online via Zoom Webinar. Due to rising COVID-19 hospitalizations in Lane County, LRAPA shifted this hybrid meeting to exclusively virtual.

This meeting shared the preliminary Cleaner Air Oregon potential health Risk Assessment results, took related questions, and highlighted areas of future engagement with LRAPA. A recording of this meeting, copy of the presentations given, as well as a written summary are available on SSE's facility specific webpage.

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