

12/04/2020

Owens Brockway Glass,

Your neighbors in the Cully community in Portland, Oregon urge you to please immediately install a control device at your facility located at 9710 NE Glass Plant Rd., Portland, 97294 location.

According to your DEQ Emissions Inventory, the facility emits many pollutants into our residential area annually, home to hundreds of families with children. These include more than 463 pounds of lead, 22 pounds of arsenic, and other toxic metals. We like having a glass recycler in our community, providing jobs and reducing the waste stream of glass going into landfills. We are tremendously thankful that your unfiltered green glass furnace is no longer being used. We wonder if using a control device on your green glass furnace could make it safe to reopen. We understand ending green glass production should have ended hexavalent chromium emissions. However, the heavy metals you currently emit make you the third most dangerous stationary industrial air polluter in the three-county Portland area according to the DEQ Level I Screening and Prioritization Risk Values.

Lead, whether inhaled or ingested, is dangerous. About 73% of the lead in children's bodies is stored in their bones. Some of the lead can stay in bones for decades; however, some lead can leave bones and reenter the blood and organs under certain circumstances (e.g., during pregnancy and periods of breast feeding, after a bone is broken, and during advancing age). The CDC concluded: "Even low levels of lead cause major health problems. ...evidence indicates that lead exposure at low doses can lead to adverse cardiovascular and kidney effects, cognitive dysfunction, and adverse reproductive outcomes." The Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR) of the US Department of Health and Human Services reports on its website that "lead can affect almost every organ and system in your body." ATSDR warns that lead targets the nervous system in adults and children, can damage the brain and kidneys, and can cause miscarriages; "children are more sensitive to the health effects of lead than adults. No safe blood lead level in children has been determined."

DEQ reports your risk to human health in its Prioritization Risk Values as primarily noncancer health effects expressed as a hazard index. To put your hazard index of 354 for chronic noncancer risk and 110 for acute noncancer risk into perspective, the worst hazard index allowed by Cleaner Air Oregon is 10 and this is only allowed for existing facilities with Best Available Control Technology or that are in compliance with a National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants order. The only factories in Portland with a hazard index 100 or higher are Precision Cast Parts, Hydro Extrusion in our Cully Neighborhood, ORRICO, and Gunderson. Owens' noncancer chronic hazard index of 354 is the single highest hazard index calculated by DEQ for any factory in Multnomah or Washington County.

DEQ's record for reasonable regulation of hazardous pollution is abysmal. That is why we are contacting you directly to ask for voluntary reduction in hazardous emissions. In Oregon, citizen action has been a much stronger regulatory force than government regulation. For example, citizen action shut down Trojan Nuclear Power Plant. A citizen lawsuit resulted in \$1.6 billion Big Pipe

mitigation that stopped Portland's sewage dumping in the Willamette. Since the Bullseye Glass scandal, many industries have voluntarily put up control devices or otherwise mitigated when asked to by their Portland neighbors. These include Precision Cast Parts, American Petroleum Environmental Services, North Star Glass, Oroboros Glass, Intel, Arclin, Vigor, and Porter Yett in Cully Neighborhood.

The Owens-Illinois Kalama, WA. glass facility, where green glass recycling processes were moved in 2019, has a bag house filter for ambient heavy metals. Given the urban nature of the Owens-Brockway facility, and its close proximity to three schools, it is surprising, and difficult to understand, why you do not offer similar protections here at Owens-Brockway as exist at your Kalama facility.

We have been working with Gregory Sotir and Greg Bourget, who met with your representative Mike Smaha, U.S. Government Affairs at Owens-Illinois, on December 10, 2019, to discuss installing a filter. Greg and Greg were told that Owens Brockway is not interested in further controlling its emissions. However after that you ended green glass production. We interpreted that as a signal that you would like to include human health in your decisions about the operation of your Portland factory.

We are currently working with 40 Portland Neighborhood Associations, 14 Portland-area churches and synagogues, three coalitions, and six other local groups whose boards have each provided us a liaison. These 60 local groups keep in touch with over 100,000 Portland neighbors on a monthly basis with emails, social media posts, and printed newsletters.

Please respond to this letter as quickly as possible with how Owens Brockway intends to address the current health threat the emissions from the Portland facility pose to residents of the Cully and Sumner communities. We firmly believe that the solution is as simple as installing a control device.

Sincerely,

Josh Heumann

Chair
On behalf of,
Cully Association of Neighbors

We undersigned agree with and endorse this request of Cully Association of Neighbors and urge you to resolve this issue with good faith negotiation.

Adam Lyons
Executive Director

North East Coalition of Neighborhoods

Chelsea Powers and Pam Hodge
Chairs
Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood
Association

Debbie Aiona

Action Chair
League of Women Voters of Portland

Ginger Edwards
Chair
Arbor Lodge Neighborhood Association

Janet Hawkins
Chair
Hayhurst Neighborhood Association

Joanna Jenkins
Chair
Brooklyn Neighborhood Association
Jennifer Vitello
Chair
Cathedral Park Neighborhood Association

Kymerly Jeka
Chair
Humboldt Neighborhood Association

Mark Gillette
Chair
Reed Neighborhood Association

Mary-Margaret Wheeler-Weber
Chair
Portsmouth Neighborhood Association

Shawn Looney
Chair
Linnton Neighborhood Association

Stanley Perkins
Chair
Pearl District Neighborhood Association

Virginia Bruce
Chair
Citizen Participation Organization One