

Quarterly Newsletter

Associate Director's Update

2017 State of the Air Highlights

On April 27, 2017, ADEQ's Office of Air Quality (OAQ) released its 2017 State of the Air report. This report highlights the positive air quality trends in Arkansas during the past decade and the hard work of the OAQ's Permits, Compliance, Enforcement and Asbestos, and Policy and Planning Branches in maintaining clean air for all Arkansans. All OAQ Branches collaborated on this report, which also highlights key milestones by the branches during federal fiscal year (FY) 2017.

Arkansas continues to experience excellent air quality. Available data indicates that ambient concentrations of most pollutants have decreased during the time peri-

od evaluated in the report and that all monitoring locations in Arkansas are currently exhibiting design values well below national ambient air quality health-based standards for all pollutants. The report provides a detailed review of trends for ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and lead, as well as their precursors.

The full report, State of the Air in Arkansas: 2017, a dashboard summarizing select trends, and a PowerPoint summarizing the findings of the report can all be found here: <https://www.adeg.state.ar.us/air/state-of-air/>.



**Office of Air Quality
Associate Director**

Stuart Spencer
501-682-0750

Visit our Webpage

www.adeg.state.ar.us/air/

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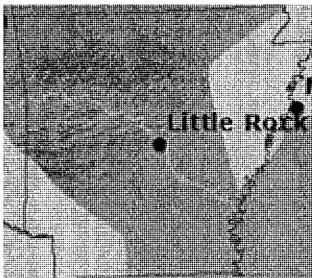
Questions or comments? Please [click here](#) or call the ADEQ Helpline at 501-682-0923.





Policy and Planning Branch Manager

William Montgomery
501-682-0885



Ozone Season

Ozone season in Arkansas began on May 1st and runs through September 30th. Although Arkansas is currently meeting federal health-based standards for ozone, it is important for everyone, but especially people with certain health conditions, to check the Air Quality Index (AQI) before exercising outdoors for longer periods of time during ozone season.

When ground-level ozone concentrations reach higher levels, it can irritate airways and decrease lung function. People at greater risk of experiencing

these symptoms include those with asthma, children, older adults, and individuals who are active outdoors.

ADEQ has partnered with Metroplan, the Arkansas Department of Health, and the Arkansas Department of Transportation to inform the community about the potential risks from ground-level ozone. ADEQ has already begun issuing forecasts for ground-level ozone.

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[State Implementation Plan](#)

[Go RED!](#)

[Monitoring Site Map](#)

[Ozone](#)

[SLEIS](#)

[Volkswagen Settlement](#)

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Ozone and Fine Particulate Forecasting

The ADEQ air quality forecaster estimates the ozone and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) concentrations most likely to occur for the following day.

Meteorology and recent pollutant concentrations give the forecaster clues about how pollutants will move throughout the atmosphere. High and low pressure systems, wind speeds, cloud cover, humidity, temperature, and pressure will determine air pollution's ability to either disperse or stagnate.

ADEQ posts forecasts for Northwest and Central Arkansas as an Air Quality Index

(AQI) that ranges from 0–500, with an easy-to-recognize color system. You can view our forecasts by visiting [AirNow.gov](#), signing up for email alerts through [EnviroFlash](#), visiting the ADEQ [website](#), or following us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).





Online Permitting Through ePortal

Most any type of air permit can be submitted online through the ADEQ ePortal system. In addition, registrations, requests for extensions, alternative monitoring and other off-permit issues can be sent through ePortal.

In the coming months, improvements and expansions to the system will be made in an effort to direct more permitting to online submittals. Air permit applications now have autofill and we are working on pre-filling forms based on information contained in the ADEQ Permit Data System.

Forms for submitting Title V reports (Semi-Annual Monitoring and Annual Compliance Certifications) are also in development.

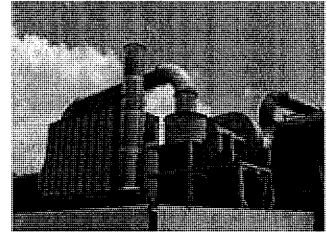
For a quick guide to the use and features of the ePortal system, download the

[How to Use ePortal Guide.](#)

Senior Operations Manager

[Thomas Rheaume](#)

501-682-0762



Visit our web pages!

[Air Permits Home Page](#)

[View Draft Permits](#)

[Application Forms and Instructions](#)

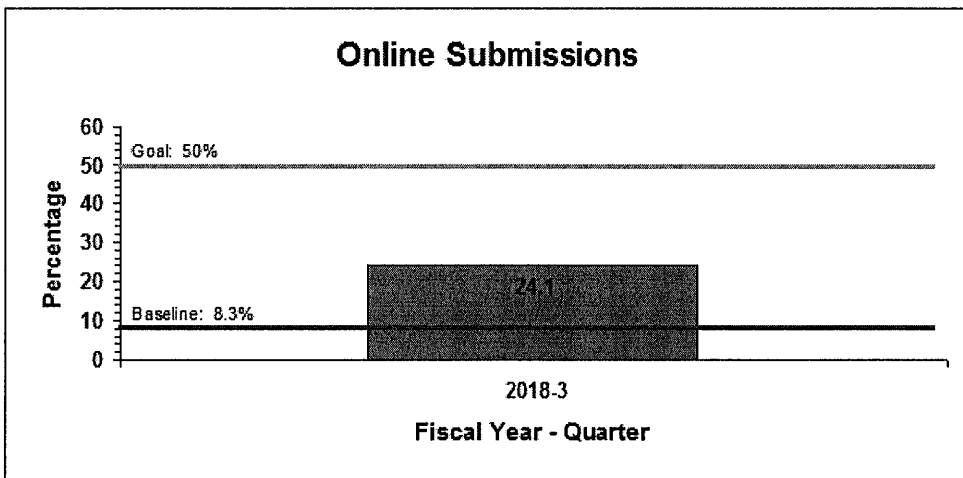
[Permit Application and Other Requests Tracking Database](#)

[Change in Ownership/Name Change Instructions](#)

[ADEQ Master Database of Permitted Facilities](#)

[ADEQ Email Lists](#)

[Air Permits Help Email Address](#)

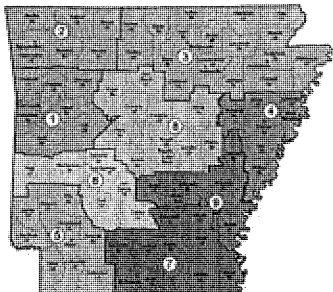




Compliance Branch Manager

Heinz Braun

501-682-0885



National Air Inspector/Enforcement Officer Workshop

Eleven members of the Compliance Branch attended the EPA Region 6 National Air Inspector/Enforcement Officer Training Workshop on May 8–10, 2018 at the Addison Training and Conference Center in Addison, Texas.

The workshop addressed regulatory knowledge, the development of quality inspections and enforcement actions, case specific training, and professional growth in field investigation experience.

The workshop was designed for federal, state, tribal and local regulatory staff that work in Air programs throughout the nation's EPA Regional Offices and States. Three Office of Air Quality Compliance Branch staff served on the planning committee for this workshop.

Three ADEQ Office of Air Quality Compliance staff members presented at the conference. The workshop not only provided a valuable learning experience but also a great opportunity for networking with regulatory staff in EPA Region 6 and other states.

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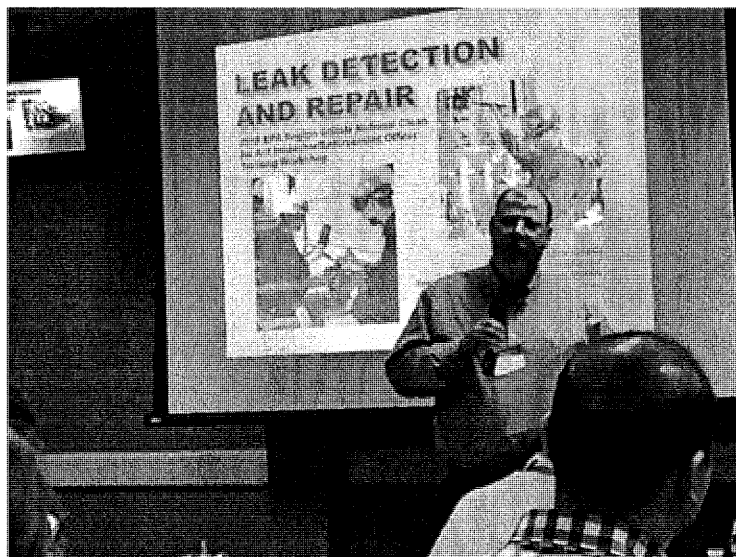
[Compliance Home Page](#)

[District Inspectors](#)

[Monitoring and Certification Databases](#)

[Yard Waste](#)

[Hydrogen-Sulfide Testing at Georgia-Pacific Crossett](#)



Inspector Supervisor Brent Day moderates a panel on Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) at the 2018 EPA Region 6 National Air Inspector/Enforcement Officer Training Workshop.



Asbestos Lean Event Highlights

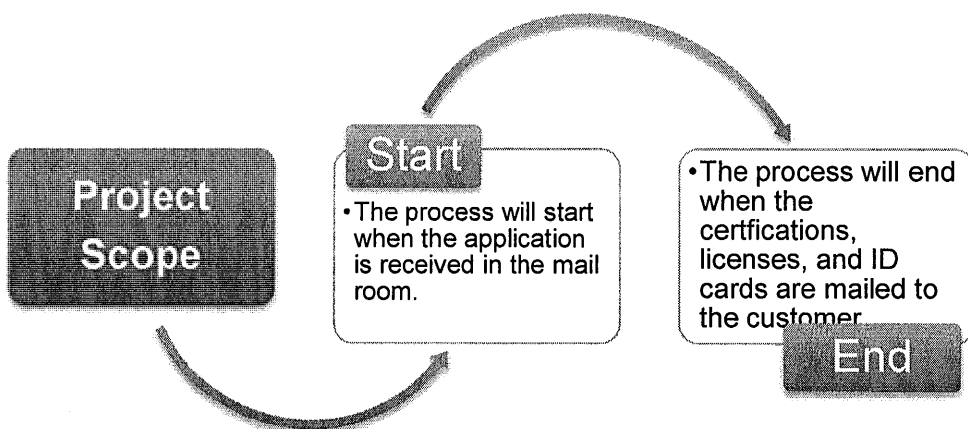
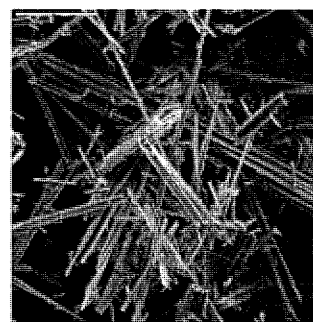
In late April, the Asbestos program conducted a lean event on the current processes for certifying individuals and licensing firms. This event focused on addressing the challenge that incomplete submissions from applicants pose to ADEQ's ability to deliver a quality product in a timely manner.

The lean event used a collaborative team effort to develop strategies to improve the performance of processing certifications and licenses by removing waste and reducing variation within the processes. The timeframe for the lean pilot project is May 15, 2018 through November 15, 2018.

Enforcement and Asbestos Branch Manager

Demetria Kimbrough

501-682-0927



Asbestos Lean Pilot Project Targets

Certifications



Baseline Data: Average lead time to process a complete certification packet is 5.7 business days

Target Performance: Reduce processing time by 30%; 4 business days

Licenses



Baseline Data: Average lead time to process a complete license packet is 9.6 business days

Target Performance: Reduce processing time by 30%; 6.7 business days

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[Asbestos Email List](#)





Enforcement and Asbestos Branch Manager

Demetria Kimbrough
501-682-0927

Enforcement Mini Lean Event Highlights

In early April 2017, a LEAN event for all ADEQ media enforcement branches was conducted. Original baseline data collected indicated a lead time for Air Enforcement Consent Administrative Orders (CAO) of 72 business days. The baseline data collected was from the point of the enforcement referral to the point the CAO was proposed. The baseline data collected included enforcement actions taken on various types of permits.

than any other media enforcement branch within ADEQ. Based upon this, Air Enforcement goals were reset and a new baseline of 80 business days was established.

The current goal of Air Enforcement is to reduce the average lead time it takes to process a CAO from 80 business days to 56 business days by September 30, 2018.



It was recognized that Air Enforcement was already processing CAOs more efficiently

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Baseline Enforcement Referral Data by Permit Type

