What to Expect During an Inspection

Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency (Spokane Clean Air) implements programs to improve air quality by reducing emissions from various air pollution sources. This includes registering, permitting and inspecting businesses that emit air pollution. Information gathered during an inspection varies depending on the type of facility being inspected and the purpose of the inspection. This document is a basic overview of what to expect during a typical facility inspection.

Inspections are conducted to:

» Verify compliance with local, state and federal air quality regulations and approved Notice of Construction (NOC) permit conditions;

» Respond to complaints filed with Spokane Clean Air; and

» Assist facilities with registration and permitting.

Most inspections involve:

» Verifying the number and types of air pollution sources and/or control equipment;

» Confirming proper operation and maintenance of the equipment;

» Identifying new equipment or modifications of existing equipment, which may require a NOC;

» Discussing planned modifications to the facility processes and/or equipment, and answering questions the facility may have; and

» Reviewing records:
  - Operation & Maintenance plans and logs
  - Material inventory, throughput or usage
  - Material Safety Data Sheets
  - Monitoring data

Following an inspection, we inform the facility of its compliance status and any corrective actions needed. We work with each facility to achieve compliance through education, however written warnings or corrective actions may be issued. If a significant or repeat violation is observed, a Notice of Violation (NOV) will likely be issued. An NOV usually results in a monetary fine.

Business Assistance:

Spokane Clean Air provides assistance to businesses we serve, including:

» Information sheets, newsletters and resource guides available at www.SpokaneCleanAir.org; and

» Consultations to help businesses understand their air pollution control equipment and permit requirements without the threat of enforcement action. Consultations may include discussing opportunities for facilities to further reduce their air emissions.

To learn more about an inspection specific to your facility or to schedule a complimentary consultation, please call (509) 477-4727.