



# Proposed Administrative Rule Setting Metropolitan Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets

## Background

The Oregon Legislature, through House Bill 2001 and Senate Bill 1059, directed the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) to set reduction targets for greenhouse gas emissions from car and light truck travel in the state's six metropolitan areas.

The emission reduction targets are one part of a statewide strategy to identify ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector through a combination of actions including changes in our transportation systems, vehicle and fuel technologies and community design.

## Why is the rule needed?

In 2007, the Oregon Legislature affirmed that global warming poses a serious threat to the economic well-being, public health, natural resources and environment of Oregon. The legislature set a statewide goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 75% below 1990 levels by 2050.

Cars and light trucks are responsible for 20% of Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions. The targets in the proposed rule will help local governments by identifying the amount of reduction in greenhouse gas emissions they need to plan for support of the overall state goal. The rule also provides guidance on improvements to vehicle technologies and fuels local governments can assume will be in place as they evaluate local strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

## What will this rule do?

The proposed rule would set emission reduction targets to be used by the state's metropolitan

areas as they conduct a new kind of planning – called scenario planning. The proposed targets are anticipated to be a 20% to 30% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light truck travel over the next 25 years. The draft rule with recommended targets will be available on April 1, 2011 on the Department's website.

Through scenario planning, local governments can consider a broad range of actions to reduce emissions, including changes to land use patterns which reduce the distances people need to drive, expanding transportation options and encouraging the use of electric vehicles or other low-emission technologies.

The results of local scenario planning will be used to inform the legislature, state agencies and the public as the state develops and implements an overall strategy to meet the goal of 75% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Local governments will also use this information when they update local comprehensive plans.

The proposed rule also requires LCDC to review the reduction targets by 2015 and to consider changes to the targets based on new information which includes the results from local scenario planning.

This rule does not require local governments to change comprehensive plans or zoning.

## Who may be affected?

The greenhouse gas reduction targets would apply to cities and counties in the state's six metropolitan areas. The Portland metro area is required by other legislation to develop two possible plans to meet greenhouse gas reduction targets in the proposed rule. The state's other five metropolitan areas,



Salem-Keizer, Eugene-Springfield, Corvallis, the Rogue Valley and Bend are encouraged, but not required to conduct scenario planning to meet the proposed targets.

### **How was this proposal developed?**

The proposed rule and targets were developed with the assistance of the Target Rulemaking Advisory Committee (TRAC) and in consultation with metropolitan area local governments, state agencies and others. The targets are based, in part, on recommendations from the Department of Transportation, Department of Environmental Quality and Department of Energy. The state agencies recommended the needed reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from car and light truck travel in metropolitan areas to meet the statewide goal of 75% reduction by 2050.

Agendas and meeting summaries from the Target Rulemaking Advisory Committee are available on the Department's website at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/meetings.shtml> - [SB 1059 and HB 2001 Rulemaking](#)

### **Rulemaking materials available**

- Proposed Rule
- Statement of Need and Fiscal Impact

The above documents are available for public comment and provide information about this proposed rulemaking. The documents can be viewed at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/rulemaking.shtml>

### **Additional materials available**

The principal documents the Department used to develop the targets are House Bill 2001, Senate Bill 1059 and the *Agencies Technical Report*. The Department also relied upon the advice and guidance from the Target Rulemaking Advisory Committee. These documents, including the TRAC meeting summaries and the supporting documents considered by the TRAC are available on the Department's website at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/meetings.shtml> - [SB 1059 and HB 2001 Rulemaking](#)

The public can view copies of these documents at the Department's Salem office at 635 Capitol St. NE, Suite 150.

### **Public hearing**

LCDC will hold a public hearing to take public comment on the proposed rule. The hearing will take place in Salem on Thursday April 21, 2011, at 9:00am. On May 19, 2011, LCDC may consider adoption of the proposed rule. Both meetings will be held at the state [Agriculture Building](#), 635 Capitol St. NE, in the Basement Hearing Room.

### **How to comment**

Interested persons may submit comments on the proposed rulemaking in writing via mail, fax, or email at any time prior to the close of the hearing on April 21, 2011.

Address written comments to the Chair of the Land Conservation and Development Commission care of Casaria Tuttle at the Department of Land Conservation and Development, 635 Capitol St, NE, Suite 150, Salem, OR 97301-2540 or email comments to Casaria Tuttle at [casaria.r.tuttle@state.or.us](mailto:casaria.r.tuttle@state.or.us). Fax comments to (503) 378-5518.

Interested persons may testify during the public hearing on April 21, 2011, or submit written comments at the hearing by providing 20 copies to the commission's assistant.

If you have questions about the proposed rule, contact Bob Cortright at (503) 373-0050 ext. 241 or by email to [bob.cortright@state.or.us](mailto:bob.cortright@state.or.us).

