Air General Permit Registrations

In Florida, there are approximately 4000 businesses with air quality permits of some type. More than 60 percent of these businesses hold air general permits, which are commonly referred to as "permits-by-rule." See <u>Rule 62-210.310</u>, <u>F.A.C.</u> Currently, there are air general permits for the following specific categories:

- Asbestos Manufacturing and Fabrication Facilities
- Animal Crematory
- Bulk Gasoline Plants
- Cast Polymer Operations
- Chromium Electroplaters
- Concrete Batching Plants
- Ethylene Oxide Sterilizers
- Halogenated Solvent Degreaser
- Human Crematory
- Mercury Recovery and Reclamation
- Nonmetallic Mineral Processing Plants
- Perchloroethylene Dry Cleaners
- Printing Operations
- Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines (RICE)
- Reinforced Polyester Resin Operations
- Secondary Aluminum Sweat Furnace
- Surface Coating Operations

Approximately 70 percent of the nearly 2600 air general permits are for dry cleaners, concrete batch plants and non-metallic mineral processing plants (i.e., rock crushers). Although selected for a variety of reasons, typically these categories represent small businesses subject to a single specific regulation. This is important because an owner cannot hold two air general permits that regulate the same facility. Also, you must surrender any conventional air permits you now hold as part of the registration process.

Obtaining an air general permit requires three basic steps:

- Determine eligibility for your business;
- Register for an air general permit; and
- Pay the \$100 registration fee.

Facilities vary, so be sure your registration describes the operations at your facility in sufficient detail to demonstrate eligibility to use the air general permit and to provide a basis for tracking any future equipment or process changes. Your registration should describe all air pollutant-

emitting processes and equipment at the facility and it should identify any air pollution control measures or equipment used. For example, the registration worksheet for concrete batching plants requires the following general information:

- Facility name and location;
- Purpose of registration (e.g., new, re-register, etc.);
- Any current permits being surrendered;
- Contact information;
- Stationary or relocatable plant;
- Methods to control fugitive dust;
- Process and control equipment subject to Rule 62-296.414(1), F.A.C. (specific to concrete batching plants).

To determine whether your facility may be eligible for an air general permit, <u>visit the Department's website</u>. You will find information on the specific regulatory requirements for each category, eligibility, worksheets, the registration process and answers to frequently asked questions. Also, there is a description of the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program and contact information for Florida's Small Business Ombudsman. The purpose of the SBEAP is to help Florida's small business community achieve and maintain regulatory compliance by providing free and confidential support, education, outreach and advocacy. The SBEAP can assist in determining eligibility and with the registration process.

Registration and payment is simple and fast with the <u>Air General Permit Electronic Registration System</u>, which uses the <u>Department's Business Portal</u>. Alternatively, you may submit a hardcopy of the category worksheet and fee. Once you have registered your business, the air general permit becomes effective 30 days after submission. Air general permits are valid for five years and you must re-register to remain in compliance. For additional information, please contact the SBEAP at 1-800-722-7457.