

Help Us Remove Ammonium Sulfate from Washington State's Toxic Air Pollutant List

As you may recall, we have a regulatory issue concerning fertilizer in Washington State. The Washington State Department of Ecology has listed a fertilizer product (Ammonium Sulfate) on their Toxic Air Pollutant list. They did so because California listed it on their TAP list. No other state has it listed. EPA does not include it in their Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP) list. Far West secured legal counsel and petitioned DOE to remove it through the Rules process. DOE has two considerations. Air Quality is the first and subsequently DOE has conducted three different site visits to multiple locations in the past year. We have no shared conclusions yet. DOE's second consideration is if the product is toxic and to date, no proof or documentation has been provided.

As a result of the petition, DOE is required to follow a certain protocol and has agreed to hold a stakeholder meeting from 10:00 AM – Noon on December 10, 2018 at the Three Rivers Convention Center in Kennewick, WA. This will be an opportunity for the public to make comments either in support or not of its removal from the TAP.

The inclusion of Ammonium Sulfate (AS) in an Air Quality permit raises the cost of the permit and subjects the retail/manufacture/distributor to audits. These associated costs raise the price of the products which contain AS and is most often passed on to the farmer/producer. Any fertilizer blend containing AS is now considered hazardous. This sets a dangerous precedence for fertilizer in Washington State.

Ammonium Sulfate is most often mixed with Glyphosate (Round-Up) as a surfactant causing the plant to increase the up-take and thereby

reducing the amount of glyphosate needed per acre, thus an environmental benefit. AS is also used in a number of custom fertilizer blends since Washington State is the third most diverse state in commodities that are grown. Farmers are exempt from the regulations surrounding any special handling of AS or a mix containing AS but they will bear the added cost of the product.

A notification for circulation and distribution will be sent to commodity groups and agricultural industry groups about 30 days prior to the meeting, but it will be extremely important for our fertilizer industry and air quality permit holders to attend and provide their input. This issue has been shared with The Fertilizer Institute in Washington DC and we are working to obtain a properly credentialed technical expert and have them in attendance.

Most knowledgeable people within our industry believe this to be nonsense and every producer in the state and every commodity organization should attend and request that DOE prove its toxicity and harmfulness or remove it.

Please paste this meeting into your calendar and it would be most helpful if you could let us know if you plan to attend by responding to: admin@fwaa.org

Date: Monday, December 10, 2018
Time: 10:00 AM-12:00 Noon. PST
Place: Three Rivers Convention Center, 7016 W. Grandridge Blvd. Kennewick, WA 99336
Meeting Room A&B

- Jim Fitzgerald

THANK YOU!

2018/2019 Conference Sponsors



Your generous donations keep our conference rates low and allow for a great learning and networking experience for our attendees.

We still have sponsorships available and need your support.

Contact Errin at errin@fwaa.org or (509) 465-5055 for more details

Far West Recognized by Crop Life America



In September, Crop Life America awarded Far West Agribusiness Association one of three Urbanowski Grassroots Awards. These awards are given to honor the outstanding contributions made by an individual or organization at the local, state or federal level. CLA will officially present the award at the January Winter Conference in Twin Falls, Idaho.

**The FWAA PAC makes a difference in our industry!
Help us continue our work by making a donation
to our conference PAC auctions**

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December Conference Session Addresses 2017 Tax Reform

The 2017 tax reform legislation, commonly referred to as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), represents the most sweeping rewrite of the federal tax code in more than three decades. As the one-year mark of the legislation approaches, now is an ideal time to review its provisions as well as potential impacts and opportunities.

Generally, the TCJA significantly reduces the income tax rate for C-corporations, and it includes enhanced cost-recovery provisions. It also provides a large new tax deduction for most owners of pass-through entities and significantly increases estate tax exemptions. However, it's not all good news for taxpayers—the TCJA also eliminates or limits many tax breaks and much of the tax relief it provides is only temporary.

We invite you to learn more in a presentation by Moss Adams at the December conference. Their professionals will highlight changes affecting businesses and their owners, review high-level planning opportunities, and summarize key takeaways from the additional guidance that's been issued since tax reform became law. Click [here](#) for full description of session.

We look forward to your presence at the presentation where you can ask questions directly of the speakers. However, if you are not able to attend the presentation, please contact Mark Swearingen at FWAA so that he can put you in contact with the Moss Adams speakers.

Exhibitor booths are going fast, don't delay and miss out on a great spot!

Going, going, gone.. Our booth spaces are going fast, our December conference has sold out half of the available spots, and our January booths are going just as fast. This is a great opportunity to get your company's products in front of people and make those new connections!

Call Errin at 509-465-5055 or errin@fwaa.org
and get your exhibitor packet and booth reserved.

President of Asmark Institute Set to Retire

Allen Summers has announced his retirement after 30 years as president of the Asmark Institute. Allen will retire at the end of 2018. Allen has 44 years in Agriculture as a farmer, distributor, retailer and founder of the Asmark Institute. Allen and his wife are widely recognized for their vision work ethic and generous contribution to the agricultural industry, Allen and his wife Susan recount their time at Asmark as being a whirlwind of truly amazing opportunities. Always up to the task, the creative couple loved building solutions for people - many of which were pioneered specifically for the ag industry. Far West has been a strong supporter of the Asmark institute for many years and has had a great relationship with Allen.

- Mark Swearingen

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Early registration ends for:

December conference: Nov. 23, 2018

January conference: Nov. 30, 2018

Lights! Camera! Auction!

FWAA PAC AUCTION

December 11th, 2018

5:30 p.m.

Great Hall

Three Rivers Convention Center
Kennewick, Washington

Silent & Live

Auction Items

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