



# Olympic Region Clean Air Agency

## General Rock Crusher Approval Order

### Fact Sheet

Rock crushing plants consisting of combinations of rock crushers, screens, conveyors and ancillary equipment working together to produce aggregate products, are regulated as stationary sources of particulate matter<sup>i</sup> air pollution and are subject to both federal and Washington State standards. Rock crushing plants with capacities greater than 25 tons per hour may require approval by Olympic Region Clean Air Agency (ORCAA) through a Notice of Construction (NOC) application before they are established at any site<sup>ii</sup>. Once approved through a NOC, an Approval Order is issued which establishes conditions to assure compliance with applicable air quality standards. Portable rock crushing plants approved through a NOC may relocate and remain for up to 12-months at any site approved for gravel mining or crushing, provided a Notice of Intent to Operate (NOI) is filed with ORCAA at least 15-days prior to relocating the plant.

#### **What is the General Rock Crusher Approval Order?**

Rock crushing plants now have the option in their NOC application to request ORCAA's "General Rock Crusher Approval Order" which offers more flexibility for relocation and operation. The General Rock Crusher Approval Order conditionally approves operation of a rock crushing plant at any single qualifying location and allows the plant to be relocated to other qualifying locations without having to submit an NOI for each move. The General Rock Crusher Approval Order also pre-approves certain equipment changes and additions and allows operation of stationary nonroad engines to power portable crushing equipment, provided the engines do not remain at a location longer than 12 consecutive-months. Engines that remain at a location for more than 12 consecutive months do not qualify as nonroad engines and may require separate approval by ORCAA<sup>iii</sup>.

#### **What equipment is covered under the General Rock Crusher Approval Order?**

The General Rock Crusher Approval Order imposes conditions on equipment comprising the rock crushing plant, which includes ancillary equipment

such as screens, conveyors, grinders and stationary nonroad engines. The General Rock Crusher Approval Order does not apply to equipment or operations directly associated with aggregate mining or exhaust from mobile equipment such as loaders, excavators and haul trucks<sup>iv</sup>.

The General Rock Crusher Approval allows flexibility to replace or add equipment such as crushers and screens to the plant without notice to ORCAA, provided conditions in the General Rock Crusher Approval Order are met.

#### **Why opt for approval under the General Rock Crusher Approval Order?**

The General Rock Crusher Approval Order is entirely voluntary. ORCAA developed it to streamline the air regulatory process by pre-approving certain equipment changes and relocations. Eliminating the requirement to submit a NOI for each relocation or receive pre-approval for certain equipment changes saves both ORCAA and the rock crushing plant operator time and money. ORCAA has already reviewed the pre-approved scenarios for compliance with applicable Washington State, ORCAA and Federal air standards and prohibitions. Therefore, we can issue approvals quickly and at a reduced cost to the applicant. If your operation can meet the operating criteria of the General Rock Crusher Approval, you should consider requesting the General Rock Crusher Approval.

#### **What criteria do I need to meet to use the General Rock Crusher Approval Order?**

The operating criteria for ORCAA's General Rock Crusher Approval Order are:

1. The plant must register<sup>v</sup> with ORCAA annually (the current fee schedule is available on ORCAA's website at [www.orcaa.org](http://www.orcaa.org));
2. Production must be limited to no more than 5,400 tons per day (annual average) and 1,000,000 tons per year;
3. Cumulative capacity of stationary nonroad engines must not exceed 2000 (bhp);

4. The rock crusher must operate at sites with existing approval to conduct rock crushing:
  - a. Registered surface mining sites with a current Sand and Gravel permit issued by the Washington Department of Ecology;
  - b. Sites located in proximity to and in support of government road construction projects;
  - c. Landfills; and,
  - d. Any site with current approval, by the city or county agency with jurisdiction, to conduct aggregate crushing operations.
5. The rock crusher must be located a minimum of 150 feet from any property line and 500 feet from any residence, occupied commercial building, school, hospital, nursing home or other sensitive receptor.

Please contact ORCAA to see a sample of the General Rock Crusher Approval.

**Do I still need to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) each time I relocate?**

No. If you comply with the requirements of the General Rock Crusher Approval Order, you will not need to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) when you relocate your rock crushing plant.

**What if I need to temporarily relocate my rock crushing plant at a location that does not meet the pre-approved criteria. What can I do?**

For locations that do not meet the siting requirements under the General Rock Crusher Approval Order, you still have the option of filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) (including the NOI Fee) with ORCAA at least 15-days prior to relocating the plant.

**Can I operate two rock crushing plants under the General Rock Crusher Approval?**

The General Rock Crusher Order of Approval gives you approval to operate one rock crushing plant.

Each additional plant you would like to operate requires a separate General Rock Crusher Order of Approval and separate annual registration.

**How do I get a General Rock Crusher Approval?**

Rock crushing plants previously approved by ORCAA can request their current Approval Order be revised to the General Rock Crusher Approval Order. To do so, submit a NOC Form 1A along with the Change in Conditions filing fee in the NOC fee schedule. On NOC Form 1A where it asks what condition you would like to revise, request to revise all conditions consistent with the General Rock Crusher Approval Order.

Rock crushing plants not previously approved by ORCAA will need to submit a NOC application including NOC Form 1, NOC Form 24B, and Filing Fee according to NOC Fee Schedule. Please check off the appropriate box at the top of NOC Form 24B indicating you would like your application processed under the General Rock Crusher Approval.

**I can't meet the operating criteria of the General Rock Crusher Approval. Does that mean I can't operate?**

No, but your operation will need to be reviewed through our regular Notice of Construction process. If your proposal meets all applicable requirements, ORCAA will issue an Approval Order specific to your operation. Your NOC application should include NOC Form 1, NOC Form 24B, and Filing Fee according to NOC Fee Schedule.

**Questions?**

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<sup>i</sup> Rock crushing plants emit particulate matter air pollution and have the potential to emit Toxic Air Pollutants (TAP) such as, but not limited, to crystalline silica, lead, and asbestos.

<sup>ii</sup> ORCAA Rule 6.1 requires approval for

- a) Portable sand and gravel plants and crushed stone plants with a cumulative rated capacity of all initial crushers greater than 150 tons per hour;
- b) Fixed sand and gravel plants and crushed stone plants with a cumulative rated capacity of all initial crushers greater than 25 tons per hour.

<sup>iii</sup>A location is any single site within a building, structure, facility, or installation

<sup>iv</sup> Mobile equipment such as loaders, excavators and haul trucks are mobile sources of air emissions and outside the scope of ORCAA's authority.

<sup>v</sup> Find more information on our Registration program on our website at [www.orcaa.org](http://www.orcaa.org).