

## **§2105.51 ABRASIVE BLASTING**

- a. **General.** No person shall conduct, or allow to be conducted, abrasive blasting or power tool cleaning, hereinafter all referred to as abrasive blasting, of any surface, structure, or part thereof, hereinafter all referred to as surface, which has a total area greater than 1,000 square feet unless:
  1. Such abrasive blasting complies with all applicable requirements of this Section; and
  2. The owner of such surface, which has a total area:
    - A. Greater than 10,000 square feet, has properly applied for and been issued, by the Department, either an abrasive blasting project permit or annual permit under this Section; or
    - B. Greater than 1,000 square feet but not more than 10,000 square feet, has properly submitted a notice to the Department under this Section,except where such blasting is part of a process requiring an operating permit under Subparts C.1 or C.2 of this Article.
- b. **Regulations Cumulative.** In addition to complying with all applicable provisions of this Section, no person shall conduct, or allow to be conducted, abrasive blasting of any surface unless such abrasive blasting also complies with all other applicable requirements of this Article unless such requirements are specifically addressed by this Section.
- c. **Permit Applications and Notices.**
  1. Properly completed applications for permits and notices required under this Section, along with the appropriate fees, shall be submitted to, and received by, the Department no later than 30 days prior to the proposed date, and in the case of notices the actual date, of commencement of the proposed abrasive blasting.
  2. Permit applications and notices under this Section shall be made on forms approved by the Department, signed by the owner of the site, and submitted in duplicate to: Abrasive Blasting Permit Applications, Allegheny County Health Dept., Bldg. 3, 3901 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15224-1345.

3. Permit applications and notices under this Section shall include all information necessary for the Department to determine full compliance with this Article, including, but not limited to:
  - A. Name, mailing and street address, telephone number, and contact person of the owner of the site;
  - B. Names, mailing and street addresses, telephone numbers, and contact persons of the person (e.g. contractor) to perform the abrasive blasting and the general contractor, if any, for the site, if known; if not known at the time of application or notice, this information must be submitted to, and received by, the Department, prior to the commencement of any abrasive blasting;
  - C. Exact location of the site, including the street and number, municipality, and postal ZIP code for the property and the specific location on the property, and a detailed description of the surrounding area, including the residential, commercial, industrial, or undeveloped nature of the area;
  - D. Starting and completion dates and daily operating hours for the abrasive blasting;
  - E. Detailed description of the nature and size of the surface to be blasted, including the square feet to be blasted;
  - F. Specific work practices, procedures, equipment, and abrasives to be utilized at the site to comply with the requirements of this Article;
  - G. Detailed justification for the use of abrasive blasting rather than an alternative method of surface preparation; and
  - H. Detailed description of the proposed manner of disposal of the spent abrasive and blast residue or any other waste material generated.
4. **Testing of paint.** For all projects involving the removal of paint, the required application or notice under this Section shall include independent laboratory test results indicating the lead content, if any, of the paint to be removed. The sampling and analysis of paint required under this Section shall be conducted in accordance with either Part G of this Article or any other methods approved in advance by the Department.

d. **Permit Application Fees.**

1. For each permit application required under this Section, other than for annual permits, the owner of the subject surface shall submit to the Department a project permit application fee, payable to the Allegheny County Air Pollution Control Fund, in the amount of \$400 for the proposed abrasive blasting.
2. For each annual permit application required under this Section, the owner of the subject surfaces shall submit to the Department an annual permit application fee in the amount of \$600, payable to the Allegheny County Air Pollution Control Fund, for the proposed abrasive blasting.

e. **Standards for Issuance.** The Department shall not issue an Abrasive Blasting Permit under this Section unless a properly completed application, with the appropriate fee, has been submitted to, and received by the Department in accordance with this Section, and such application demonstrates to the Department's satisfaction that the blasting will be conducted in full compliance with the requirements of this Article.

f. **Project Permits.** Unless covered by an annual permit, separate project permits shall be required for each different structure to be blasted.

g. **Annual Permits.** In place of project permits, an annual permit may be issued for on-going, in-house abrasive blasting operations involving continuous or intermittent abrasive blasting performed at a specified site.

h. **Permit Term.** Unless revoked by the Department under this Article:

1. A project permit issued under this Section shall expire on either the project completion date identified in the application, any expiration date identified on the issued permit, or 365 days after the date of issuance, whichever is sooner; and
2. An annual permit issued under this Section shall expire on either any expiration date identified on the issued permit, or on December 31 of the year of issuance, whichever is later.

i. **Notices of Set-up & Preparation and of Completion.**

1. **Set-up and Preparation Notice.** No person shall conduct, or allow to be conducted, any abrasive blasting activities requiring a permit

under this Subpart unless, following completion of the full set-up and preparation of the work area, including the commencement and continuing maintenance of any required negative air pressure in the work area, any other controls, and any required monitoring, but prior to the commencement of any actual abrasive blasting activity, the Department is notified of such completion of set-up and preparation. Such notice shall include the abrasive blasting permit number, the names of the owner and the abrasive blasting contractor, the street address and municipality of the project site, the name and phone number of the person submitting the notice, and the estimated date and time of the actual commencement of abrasive blasting.

2. The owner or operator shall notify the Department of the date on which all abrasive blasting and clean-up activities have been finally completed at a site no later than 24 hours after such date.
- j. **Monitoring.** If the Department determines, on the basis of any information available to it, that emissions or potential emissions from any proposed or existing abrasive blasting operation may reasonably be anticipated to have a potentially adverse impact upon the public health, safety, or welfare due to, among other concerns, the presence of lead paint, the Department may, by order or permit condition, require the owner or operator to implement ambient air quality monitoring programs during the abrasive blasting operation and to submit the monitoring results to the Department as expeditiously as possible. All ambient air quality sampling, analysis, and reporting required under this Section shall be conducted in accordance with either Part G of this Article or any other federal or state guidance acceptable to the Department. All such ambient air quality sampling, analysis, and reporting shall be conducted by persons who have no financial interest in, or personal association with, the site owner or operator, the general contractor, or the abrasive blasting contractor or subcontractor, and in accordance with a plan approved in advance by the Department and in accordance with all applicable orders and permit conditions. Such plan shall include a statement of qualifications, QA/QC program, specifications for monitor type and placement, monitoring duration, and a reporting schedule.
- k. **Rejection, Suspension, and Revocation.**
1. The Department may, at any time, reject a permit application under this Section or suspend or revoke a permit issued under this Section if it determines that:
    - A. Any statement made in the permit application or any other submittal by the applicant to the Department is not true, or

that material information has not been disclosed in the application or any such submittal;

- B. The abrasive blasting operation is not being conducted or will not be conducted, or the proposed operation will not be conducted, in full compliance with all applicable provisions of this Article and all applicable permits and orders;
  - C. Potential or actual emissions from the operation or proposed operation are potentially endangering, or are likely to potentially endanger, public health, safety or welfare; or
  - D. It has been denied lawful access to the site as authorized by Part I of this Article.
- 2. Rejected applications and revoked permits can not be reconsidered or reissued. Consideration and issuance of new applications and permits can only occur after submittal of a new application and fee in accordance with this Section.
  - 3. Reinstatement of a suspended permit can only occur after the owner has, to the Department's satisfaction, corrected all problems and demonstrated an ability and willingness to comply with all requirements, and documented such corrections and demonstration to the Department.
- l. **High-silica abrasives.** No abrasive blasting using high-silica abrasives shall be conducted at any time.
  - m. **Abrasive blasting involving lead paint.** For all abrasive blasting involving lead paint:
    - 1. Visible emissions shall comply with the requirements of §2104.01.a of this Article at the source at all times; and
    - 2. Best Available Control Technology shall be used at the site at all times to minimize visible emissions beyond the property line, public exposure to particulate matter, and the deposition of particulate matter upon public or private property.
  - n. **Abrasive blasting not involving lead paint.** For all abrasive blasting not involving lead paint, visible emissions shall comply with the requirements of §2104.01 of this Article at all times when conducting abrasive blasting.

- o. **Clean-up, Storage, and Disposal Procedures.** A complete clean-up of all spent abrasive and blast and cleaning residue, shall be conducted upon termination of abrasive blasting activities each day and upon the final termination of the project. Clean-up procedures shall include, at a minimum, the following:
  - 1. The daily collection of all spent abrasive and blast and cleaning residue, if any, visible in the vicinity of the blasting site.
  - 2. All vacuuming of spent abrasive and blast and cleaning residue, for all abrasive blasting not involving lead paint, shall be performed using an industrial vacuum cleaner equipped with an exhaust filter.
  - 3. All vacuuming of spent abrasive and blast and cleaning residue, for all abrasive blasting involving lead paint, shall be performed using an industrial vacuum cleaner equipped with a HEPA filter.
  - 4. All stockpiles of new or recycled abrasive materials at the site shall be covered at all times, except and only to the extent necessary to remove or add materials to the piles.
  - 5. All spent abrasive and blast and cleaning residue at the site shall be stored for disposal in covered containers, and shall not be stored at the site in violation of any applicable Federal, State, and local environmental regulations.
  - 6. All spent abrasive and blast and cleaning residue from the site, and all other solid waste and waste water generated at the site from the abrasive blasting activity, shall be properly disposed of in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, and local environmental regulations.
  
- p. **Alternative Standards or Procedures.**
  - 1. The Department may, on a case-by-case basis, approve an alternative standard or procedure to be followed on a specific abrasive blasting project in lieu of a requirement of this Section provided that the requested alternative standard or procedure is submitted, in writing, and demonstrates to the Department's satisfaction that:
    - A. The proposed alternative standard or procedure is equivalent to a requirement of this Section; or
    - B. That strict compliance with the requirements of this Section are unreasonable or impossible in the particular

circumstances involved, and the proposed alternative standard or procedure will minimize, to the maximum extent possible, the potential for the public's exposure to emissions from the abrasive blasting project.

2. Approval to institute an alternative standard or procedure must be received, in writing, from the Department prior to the use of such alternative standard or procedure.
3. Abrasive blasting activity subject to this Section involving specific activities such as, but not limited to, the use of vacuum shrouded power tools, must fully comply with all requirements of this Section, including, but not limited to, all containment requirements, unless specific alternative procedures have been approved under this Section.