

By-law 2010-035, A by-law to assess and control the health effects of major emissions of fine particulate matter in the Town of Oakville.

Approved February 1, 2010

What is the purpose of the by-law?

- To protect human health from airborne fine particulate matter.
- To collect information on sources of emissions of fine particulate matter.
- To reduce over time levels of fine particulate matter in the Town's ambient air.

What is fine particulate matter?

- Fine particulate matter ("fine PM") is airborne particles less than 2.5 micrometres in size. It is listed as a toxic substance by the Canadian Environmental Protection Agency.
- An abundance of scientific and government studies show serious, even fatal, health effects from human inhalation of airborne fine particulate matter.
- 80 premature deaths in Oakville can be attributable to fine PM pollution every year based on an annual concentration of 10 micrograms per cubic metre (ICAP).
- There are no federal or provincial regulatory standards for fine particulate matter emissions or ambient levels.

What authority does the Town have to regulate fine particulate matter?

- The Town has municipal powers outlined in the *Municipal Act, 2001* to pass by-laws respecting health, safety, and well-being of persons, and to prohibit and regulate with respect to public nuisances, including matters that, in the opinion of council, are or could become or cause public nuisances.
- The Town's by-laws cannot conflict with or frustrate the purpose of provincial or federal law.

For more information...

For information on the Health Protection Air Quality By-law, including compliance guidance documents, staff reports, presentations, and a copy of the by-law, refer to the Town's website, or contact Jeffrey Lee, Research Policy Analyst - Air, Environmental Policy:

- Website: <http://www.oakville.ca/environment/health-protection-air-quality.html>
- Email: healthprotection@oakville.ca
- Tel: 905.845.6601, ext. 3149