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FOR RELEASE: June 28, 2011
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Ohio EPA Plans Meeting about Chrysler Plant Expansion in Toledo

Chrysler is planning an expansion of its Toledo North Assembly Plant that will require air pollution permits from Ohio EPA. To explain the draft air pollution permits and listen to public comments, Ohio EPA and Toledo Division of Environmental Services (TDES) will hold a public information session and hearing on Thursday, July 14, 2011.

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the West Toledo YMCA Auditorium, 2110 Tremainsville Road, Toledo. During the information session, officials will present information about the draft permits and answer questions. During the hearing, the public can submit comments for the record regarding the draft permits.

The Toledo North Assembly Plant body shop and paint line will be expanded to accommodate the 2013 model year platform. Facility-wide increases from these changes will add 8.02 tons of carbon monoxide, 9.75 tons of nitrogen oxides, 2.1 tons of large particulate matter, 0.34 tons of sulfur dioxide and 31.58 tons of volatile organic compounds to the facility's allowable annual emissions.

Three permits are being considered. One is a [new permit-to-install](#) to add a foam injection process to the body shop. The [second permit](#) action is a modification to an existing permit. Chrysler is expanding the current sealer operation and installing four natural gas-fired curing ovens on the sealer and coating operations to allow for operational flexibility. The [third permit](#) action is a modification to allow some current robotic welding equipment to be replaced and directing existing fugitive emissions through a stack.

The federal Clean Air Act and its amendments regulate the type and quantity of materials that may be discharged to the air. The maximum allowable emission levels are designed to protect human health and the environment. These levels are set in permits issued by Ohio EPA.

Ohio EPA and TDES will accept written comments on the draft permits through July 18, 2011. Anyone may submit comments or request to be on the mailing list for information. Ohio EPA will take all public comments into consideration before deciding whether to issue or deny the permit.

To comment or receive information on the draft air permits, write to Bob Kossow, Toledo Division of Environmental Services, 348 South Erie St., Toledo, OH 43602, or fax comments to Bob Kossow at (419) 936-3959. The application and other related materials are available for review at TDES by calling (419) 936-3015. The draft permits also are available online.