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October 16, 2014

Dear Agricultural Burn Permit Customer:

As you may know, Department of Ecology (Ecology) has revised the rules for Agricultural burning set in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-430. These changes became effective December 12, 2010, but we will implement them effective January 1, 2011. In anticipation of these changes the Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency (YRCAA) met with your representatives on November 18, 2010 to inform you of the changes. We realize that not all of our community may know of these changes. Therefore, a summary of the changes to the rule (WAC 173-430) is attached for your information. The primary change to the rule is the fee basis for pile burning permits. Fees will be based on tons to be burned rather than acres. For burning of orchard wood, we developed a worksheet to calculate tons of wood. The worksheet will be posted on our website and available in our office at the front desk. A copy of the worksheet with the three acceptable methods and explanation is enclosed for your reference.

To further simplify the agricultural burn permit process, we are attaching our new permit in this letter. You may fill it out before you come to our office and we will help you with the calculation, if needed. Of course, you can always call us for any help you may need.

Effective January 1, 2013 pile burning permit fee is \$80 for the first 80 tons of material to be burned and \$1.00 for each additional ton. YRCAA is committed to continue serving you through the daily allocation program. YRCAA will continue to strive to find easier ways to advise of the daily allocation by issuing the allocation one day prior to the burn day at 3:00 to 3:30 PM daily and 3:00 to 3:30 PM Friday for the weekend. This way, you do not have to wait until 10:00 AM to start burning. When the forecast and the models show excellent ventilation and dispersion for the following day, YRCAA will allocate unlimited burning. Most importantly, we at YRCAA thank you for your cooperation and understanding of our Valley's need to maintain healthful air quality.

Best regards,

Hasan M. Tahat, Ph.D.
Engineering and Planning Division Supervisor

Encl: Summary of the changes to Agricultural Burning WAC 173-430
Worksheet for estimating tonnage of a pile of orchard tear-out wood
Agricultural burn permit application and additional burn page (if needed)

Cc: Gary Pruitt, YRCAA, Executive Director