

Electronic Alert

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January 6: Ventilation Requirements Deadline

By Natalie Pattison

As a reminder, Oregon OSHA published extensive temporary rules regarding COVID-19 that apply to almost all workplaces in Oregon. These temporary rules include the following ventilation requirements:

No later than January 6, 2021, employers must optimize the amount of outside air circulation through their existing HVAC system when employees are present in the workplace. This includes replacing air filters as needed and ensuring HVAC intake ports are clean and functioning properly.

This rule does not require employers to purchase new HVAC systems or retrofit existing systems. While there is no written condition for this requirement, employers should memorialize in writing what steps were taken to comply by the deadline in case of agency scrutiny.

It is important that employers stay up-to-date with the many requirements imposed by Oregon OSHA's temporary rules. Details regarding these rules and various deadlines are outlined in Barran Liebman's previous <u>E-Alert</u> (originally published November 9, 2020).

For any questions relating to navigating COVID-19 in the workplace, contact Natalie Pattison at 503-276-2104 or npattison@barran.com.