THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UMATILLA COUNTY

STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Amending Ordinance No. 98-09, codified in Chapter 95, Smoke Management Ordinance)

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners has ordained Ordinance No. 98-09, adopting management of open burning and smoke management;

WHEREAS the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners desires to amend the smoke management ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE the Board of Commissioners of Umatilla County ordains that the Smoke Management Ordinance, No. 98-09, passed November 4, 1998, shall be amended to read as follows:

Section 95.01 PURPOSE

The intent of this ordinance is to protect open burning as an effective, efficient, and appropriate natural resource management tool; as well as to improve air quality over Umatilla County by considering 1) technical aspects of burning, 2) materials being burned, 3) potential particulate load generated by open fires, and 4) cost-effectiveness and efficiency of program administration and enforcement. In addition, the ordinance is intended to enhance air quality by increasing public awareness of the need to reduce smoke from all sources. Through education and information, all open burning in the county will be encouraged to be done only on designated BURN days and in a manner which both minimizes smoke generation and/or insures adequate smoke dispersal to minimize adverse effects of smoke.

Regulated Open Burning. Since open field fires and fires in orchards generate high volumes of particulate matter, this ordinance will regulate open burning of any land areas of two acres and larger as well as open burning in commercial orchards by requiring a Smoke Management Permit, by allowing open burning only on designated BURN days, and by requiring pre-ignition notification.

Open Burning Not Regulated by this Ordinance. The scope of this ordinance is not to include within its regulation the following open burning:

A. Open burning within city limits;
B. Open burning on State and Federal lands. The agencies managing these lands shall be encouraged to have a written smoke management program accompanied by active enforcement that the Board of Commissioners accepts as reasonably protecting air quality in Umatilla County;
C. Open burning on lands managed by the Oregon Department of Forestry in accordance with...
the Oregon Smoke Management Plan;
D. Open burning on lands within the boundaries of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR);
E. Fires conducted by a fire district for training or practice.
F. Smaller fires, including but not limited to burn barrels and to areas less than two acres within a fire district’s boundaries (may be subject to regulation by a fire district);
G. Smaller fires outside the incorporated cities and outside the boundaries of the fire districts (will still be subject to the County Open Burning Ordinance under Chapter 91 of the Umatilla County Code of Ordinances); and
H. Open burning associated with commercial and industrial activity shall continue to be regulated by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Section 95.02 DEFINITIONS

Board of Commissioners. Umatilla County Board of Commissioners.

Burn Day. Any day which the County has formally designated a Burn Day.

Fire District. Any fire protection district that is funded by taxes paid by those who reside within boundaries established and recorded by Umatilla County.

Open Burning. Open burning is any burning conducted in such a manner that combustion air is not effectively controlled and that combustion products are not vented through a stack or chimney, including but not limited to burning conducted in open outdoor fires, common burn barrels and backyard incinerators (see ORS 476.005(d, f, g)).

Person. Any individual person, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture or any other organization or institution.

Propane Flaming. Propane flaming is the use of a propane burner designed to apply fire and heat in a uniform pattern over the surface of an agricultural field for the purpose of uniformly eliminating combustible crop and other vegetative residues and/or reducing the population of plant pests and disease factors, thereby reducing the risks associated with crop pests, crop diseases, and weeds.

Smoke Management Program. The Smoke Management Ordinance, associated implementation measures, and the collective efforts of the parties and agencies that implement this ordinance.

Section 95.03 SMOKE MANAGEMENT PERMITS

1. A Smoke Management Permit shall be obtained prior to any of the following open burning in areas of the county outside the boundaries of a city:

   A. Persons Open Burning an area of two (2) contiguous acres or more, regardless of the material being burned;
B. Persons burning tree prunings, stumps and limbs, or using burning devices to protect trees from frost damage in commercial orchards.

2. A Smoke Management Permit shall be valid for the current calendar year only. Except that Smoke Management Permits issued during the 1999 calendar year under this ordinance shall be valid through December 31, 2000.

3. Application for a Smoke Management Permit shall be made with the Umatilla County Planning Department on a form approved by the Board of Commissioners. Applicants applying to burn multiple areas may submit a map with their application, including the burn location information on the map.

4. The permit fee shall be set by the Board of Commissioners and included in Chapter 39, Fee Schedules, of the Umatilla County Code of Ordinances. The Smoke Management Permit fees shall be designed to support the cost of administering the Umatilla County Smoke Management Program. Additionally, as required by ORS 468A.615, a $4.00 fee may be collected for each acre of perennial or annual grass seed crop sanitized by open burning, if the County has entered into such a contract with the Department of Environmental Quality or its designee.

5. The Smoke Management Permit shall be available for inspection at the site of the permitted fire.

6. Upon request to the Board of Commissioners by a city, a fire district, or the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), the Smoke Management Permit may additionally serve as a burning permit within the boundaries of the city, the fire district, or the CTUIR. For those parties burning outside city limits and outside the boundaries of a fire district, the Smoke Management Permit may also serve as the County Burn Permit, if so decided by the Board of Commissioners.

Section 95.04 DESIGNATED BURN DAYS

1. A Smoke Management Permit holder shall conduct open burning only on days designated as BURN days.

2. Permit holders shall contact the designated Smoke Management Information Number prior to initiating a burn in order to determine the designated burn status for the day, which will be either BURN or NO BURN. If both a morning and afternoon status report are provided, persons burning prior to 12:00 noon shall call for the morning burn status report and persons burning in the afternoon shall call for the afternoon burn status report, prior to igniting any fires after 12:00 noon.

3. Umatilla County shall make a daily determination of designated burn status.

4. The designation of a BURN or NO BURN day shall be determined using credible scientific data concerning weather conditions that will be favorable for smoke dispersal. The Smoke Management Committee shall maintain an outline of procedures by which the burn status determination shall be
made, including but not limited to (a) specific data to be used, (b) the sources of the data to be used, (c) technical justification for the choice of data, and (d) the manner in which the data shall be used to make the determination.

5. The following days shall automatically constitute NO BURN days:

   A. Air stagnation days designated by the National Weather Service or which might unreasonably impact periods of noncompliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards for a local community, considering the meteorological and other ambient air conditions;

   B. Days on which the State Fire Marshall or designated agent has prohibited burning based on general fire safety conditions;

   C. The Pendleton Round-Up, from the Saturday preceding the Round-Up through the Sunday following the Round-Up;

   D. For the events listed below, no Open Burning shall be allowed within a radius of three miles of the event site, nor within 5 miles generally upwind of the site of the following events:
      (1) Umatilla County Fair and Farm-City Pro Rodeo (Hermiston)
      (2) Fort Henrietta Day Celebration (Echo)
      (3) Hermiston Spud Festival
      (4) OSU / USDA Experiment Station Research Field Day (Adams)
      (5) CTUIR events (to be specifically identified and applied for inclusion to the Smoke Management Committee on a yearly basis)
      (6) Caledonian Games (Athena)
      (7) Muddy-Frogwater Festival (Milton-Freewater); and

   E. Additional days so designated by the Board of Commissioners due to adverse weather conditions or prolonged dry conditions.

6. The designation of a BURN day shall apply to all areas of the county, unless, as technology and procedures permit doing so in a reliable manner, two or more zones may be established in the county.

7. If the status report changes to NO BURN from an earlier status of BURN, no new fires may be ignited after the change of status.

8. On BURN days, no open burn shall be ignited before 7:30 A.M. or after two hours before sunset. All open flame shall be extinguished no later than one hour after sunset, including smoldering piles of materials, unless there is at least one person designated to provide ongoing fire safety watch at all times, including through the night if necessary to assure fire safety and to prevent unwarranted smoke emissions.

9. When a permit holder uses smudge pots, propane heaters, and/or other open burning devices to provide heat for the purpose of protecting commercial orchards from frost damage, that person shall be exempt from the requirement to burn only on a designated BURN day.
Section 95.05 HAZE REDUCTION DAYS

1. In order to protect the public health, safety, and aesthetic character of days when larger numbers of persons typically participate in outdoor activities, Open Burning shall be more strictly regulated on designated Haze Reduction Days.

2. The following days shall be Haze Reduction Days, requiring a higher standard for smoke dispersal before being designated with BURN day status for part or all of the county:

   A. On the following national holidays, countywide:
      (1) Memorial Day weekend (Saturday – Monday)
      (2) July 4th (Independence Day)
      (3) Labor Day weekend (Saturday – Monday)

   B. On the days of the events listed below, outside a radius of three miles of the event site and beyond 5 miles generally upwind of the site:
      (1) Umatilla County Fair and Farm-City Pro Rodeo (Hermiston)
      (2) Fort Henrietta Day Celebration (Echo)
      (3) Hermiston Spud Festival
      (4) OSU / USDA Experiment Station Research Field Day (Adams)
      (5) CTUIR events (to be specifically identified and applied for inclusion to the Smoke Management Committee on a yearly basis)
      (6) Caledonian Games (Athena)
      (7) Muddy-Frogwater Festival (Milton-Freewater)

3. The Smoke Management Committee shall establish the criteria for designation of a day as a Haze Reduction Day and on an annual basis shall review areas and events in the county that have requested designation as Haze Reduction Days. The Smoke Management Committee shall make recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for amending Haze Reduction Days.

Section 95.06 PROHIBITED OPEN BURNING

1. Permit Holders shall not ignite a fire if the wind speed exceeds 20 miles per hour and are discouraged from igniting fires when wind speeds exceed 15 miles per hour. Each burner shall be responsible for monitoring wind speed at the site of the fire with the understanding that designation as a BURN day is no guarantee of safe conditions for burning.

2. Tree stumps may not be open burned unless they have first been removed from the ground and let dry, so they will burn without creating a dense smoke and without smoldering for an extended period of time.

3. No materials which are on the DEQ list of materials prohibited from open burning may be burned in Umatilla County. (See Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 340-023-0042(2).)

Section 95.07 PRE-IGNITION NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
Prior to igniting an open burn, Permit Holders shall notify Umatilla County of the Open Burning and also provide any other information requested by the County. In addition, Permit Holders will need to notify the appropriate fire protection agencies (such as a Fire District, County Dispatch, Tribal Fire Department, U.S. Forest Service, Oregon Department of Forestry, or other state or federal agencies) of the intent to burn.

Section 95.08 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. All open burning shall be done in a manner which

   A. Does not unreasonably interfere with the enjoyment of life or property;
   B. Does not create an unreasonable public or private nuisance; and
   C. Does not pose an unreasonable hazard to public safety.

2. Smoke that is merely unsightly in the judgment of an individual shall not necessarily be considered a public nuisance.

3. Propane flaming of grass seed and cereal grain residue is allowed only after as much residue as practicable has been removed from the field, or if the field has been recently open burned. Propane flaming is allowed only on designated BURN days. This provision does not apply to the use of hand-held propane devices used for the purpose of igniting fires.

4. Open burning shall be conducted in a manner that reasonably minimizes the likelihood the smoke emitted will create unsafe driving conditions on nearby roads and highways.

5. Fire safety shall be the responsibility of each burner. Nothing in this ordinance shall relieve any permit holder or person who has started or authorized a fire, whether permitted or not, from responsibility or liability for damage or injury.

6. Reasonable efforts shall be taken to extinguish and/or minimize smoke from open burning of hay stacks, brush, and other materials that have been ignited, whether accidentally, by arson, or by natural events such as lightning.

Section 95.09 ENFORCEMENT and PENALTIES

1. The following penalties shall be assessed for failure to comply with the requirements of the Smoke Management Ordinance:

   A. The base penalty shall be not more than $500.00 for Open Burning without first obtaining a Smoke Management Permit or for burning on a designated NO BURN day.
   B. The base penalty shall be not more than $100.00 for failure to properly report an intended burn to the County. The County shall not assess a penalty for this violation if a penalty is assessed by a Fire District.
   C. The base penalty shall be not more than $50.00 for any other violation of this ordinance.
2. The following procedure shall apply to violations of the Smoke Management Ordinance:

A. For a first violation, generally a written warning shall be given, along with information concerning open burning regulations, recommended smoke management practices, and fire safety. At the discretion of the enforcing officer, however, a citation may be given in lieu of a warning if the gravity of the violation justifies the citation in the officer's judgement. Regardless of whether a warning or citation is given, the offense shall be considered a "first offense" for purposes of the progressive penalties provided by this ordinance.

B. For each subsequent violation of the Smoke Management Ordinance within a 3 year time period, the penalty shall be increased as follows:

(1) Second Offense: Penalty equal to 100 percent of the applicable maximum Base Penalty.
(2) Third Offense: Penalty equal to 250 percent of the applicable maximum Base Penalty.
(3) Fourth Offense: Depending upon the severity of the violations, including especially actions which jeopardize maintaining open burning as a management tool, the penalty shall be no less than 500 percent of the applicable maximum base penalty nor more than 750 percent, and the offender shall be declared an Habitual Offender.

C. A Person violating the Smoke Management Ordinance by burning without a Smoke Management Permit or burning on a NO BURN day more than 3 times in 3 calendar years shall be declared an Habitual Offender. Following convictions for 5 or more other violations of this ordinance in 3 calendar years, the court judge may, depending on the severity of the violations, also declare the violator an Habitual Offender. An Habitual Offender shall immediately forfeit their current Smoke Management Permit; and for a period of five (5) years following the date of designation as an Habitual Offender, the party shall be denied any further Smoke Management Permits.

3. Depending upon the nature of the offense, the violation may be reported to DEQ and be subject to further penalties under the DEQ Enforcement Procedures and Civil Penalties provisions (see OAR Ch 340, Div 12).

4. For purposes of this ordinance, a "Violator" shall be considered to be:

A. The Person who ignited the fire, and/or
B. The Person which employs or contracts for the services of the person igniting the fire.

This regulation shall apply regardless of the organizational structure of the Person authorizing the burning. For purposes of this ordinance, an employer shall also include the Person that contracts for labor services.

5. The Person actually igniting the fire may be excused from a penalty under this ordinance if they can reasonably demonstrate that they were instructed to ignite the fire by their employer and that they were acting in accordance with their employer's instructions.
6. The Person who employs or contracts for the services of the Person igniting the fire may be excused from a penalty for violation of this ordinance only if they can reasonably demonstrate that they did not directly or by implication or by common practice authorize the fire to be ignited.

7. Any penalties assessed shall not be in lieu of any permit fees.

8. This ordinance is enforceable by any Umatilla County Sheriff’s deputy or any other law enforcement officer, or by those fire district or fire department officials authorized by the Sheriff or by city police chiefs to write citations and having jurisdiction within the boundaries of Umatilla County. Enforcement will occur by issuance of a citation in the form of a Oregon Uniform Citation and Complaint or Uniform Criminal Citation Complaint, and violators will be cited into Umatilla County Circuit Court.

Section 95.10 SMOKE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1. The Board of Commissioners shall appoint and maintain a Smoke Management Committee (Committee) composed of no less than seven (7) members, generally representing the following:

   A. Various geographic areas of the county;
   B. Major commodities produced in the county, which rely upon burning as a significant management practice;
   C. Fire districts; and
   D. City fire departments or other fire protection agencies.

The Board of Commissioners may appoint other persons as ad hoc or advisory members to the Committee who, because of their particular expertise, interest, or involvement might significantly further the purposes of the Smoke Management Program.

2. The Committee may, with the approval of the Board of Commissioners, establish an executive committee that shall carry on the activity of the Committee between meetings of the whole committee.

3. The Committee shall remain under the direct supervision of the Board of Commissioners and shall be administered by County staff as designated by the Director of the Planning Department.

4. The Committee shall, in collaboration with the designated administrative head of the program, schedule meetings and other activities to:

   A. Monitor the overall effectiveness of the Smoke Management Ordinance;
   B. Develop and implement an annual Smoke Management Operating Plan, which shall be reviewed and approved by the Board of Commissioners prior to June 15 of each year, beginning in the year 2000. Once adopted by the Board of Commissioners, the annual Operating Plan shall be considered part of the Ordinance;
   C. Following approval of the annual operating plan, conduct a public information meeting in the Hermiston area, the Pendleton area, and the Milton-Freewater area in cooperation with local
fire departments and fire districts to assure that all interested parties have an opportunity to be informed concerning the current smoke management regulations;

D. Coordinate implementation of this ordinance with the various fire districts and city fire departments and with regional fire protection and control institutions, such as but not limited to, the Tribal Fire Department and the Area 9 Fire Defense Board (Umatilla, Morrow, and Gilliam Counties’ mutual aid fire assistance program);

E. Develop and recommend to the Board of Commissioners an annual operating budget for the program; and

F. At least once annually, if appropriate, recommend improvements in the Ordinance and Operating Plan to the Board of Commissioners for possible adoption into the Ordinance.

5. The Committee shall also, if feasible, keep or cause to be kept a record of information necessary to effectively administer this ordinance, including filing any reports mandated by local, state or federal authorities, and shall at least once each year prepare and provide a report of this information to the Board of Commissioners.

6. The Committee, following review of complaints or other information that indicates or suggests a potentially significant smoke related air quality concern, may recommend to the Board of Commissioners other types of open burning that should be regulated by the Smoke Management Ordinance or amendments to the ordinance.

7. The Committee shall:

A. Provide to the public, or cause to be provided, information that appropriately addresses smoke management issues and practices, including the provisions of this ordinance;

B. Cooperate with various fire protection and air quality agencies to provide appropriate fire safety and protection information, with an emphasis on periods of increased volume of burning and increased risks associated with open burning;

C. Encourage landowners, tenants and operators to adopt practices that reduce smoke emissions from open burning, and where practical and economically feasible, encourage use of alternatives to burning;

D. Maintain a centralized automated phone system that allows the public to learn the designated burn status for the day, plus related information.

Section 95.11 SEVERABILITY

If any part of this ordinance or any provision adopted by reference herein is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance or any provisions adopted by reference herein.
Section 95.12 EMERGENCY

Open burning is conducted year-round in Umatilla County and some areas of the county will be in formal fire season restrictions at the time this revised ordinance is adopted. Therefore, the Board of Commissioners does declare an emergency and does furthermore declare that this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

FIRST READING: August 30, 1999.

SECOND READING: October 20, 1999

DATED this 20 day of October, 1999.

UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Emile M. Holeman, Chairman

William S. Hansell, Commissioner

Dennis D. Doherty, Commissioner

ATTEST:
OFFICE OF COUNTY RECORDS

Records Officer
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UMATILLA COUNTY

STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Amending
Ordinance No. 94-05, codified
in Chapter 91, County Burning Permit
System Ordinance

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WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners has ordained Ordinance No. 94-05, adopting the county burning permit system;

WHEREAS ORS 476.380 prohibits any person, outside the boundaries of a rural fire protection district or a forest protection district, from causing or permitting any open burning material without first obtaining a permit from the Board of Commissioners;

WHEREAS under ORS 476.380 the Board of Commissioners shall establish the process and the conditions for the issuance of burning permits;

WHEREAS the Board of Commissioners desires to amend the county burning permit system ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE the Board of Commissioners of Umatilla County ordains that the Burning Permit System Ordinance, No. 94-05, passed August 24, 1994 and October 31, 1994, shall be amended to read as follows:

Section 91.01 AUTHORITY

County Burning Permits are issued for implementation of ORS 476.380, as provided by the system established by Chapter 91 of the Umatilla County Code of Ordinances.

Section 91.02 DEFINITIONS

Board of Commissioners. Umatilla County Board of Commissioners.

Burn Day. Any day which the County has formally designated a Burn Day.

Open Burning. Open burning is any burning conducted in such a manner that combustion air is not effectively controlled and that combustion products are not vented through a stack or chimney, including but not limited to burning conducted in open outdoor
E. The permit shall cover any Open Burning by the permit holder that is regulated by this ordinance. A permit for open burning for land areas of two acres and larger or for commercial orchards will also cover common burn barrels of the permit holder.

F. If so decided by the Board of Commissioners, a Smoke Management Permit issued under Chapter 95 of the Umatilla County Code of Ordinances may also serve as a County Burning Permit for open burning of any land areas of two acres and larger or open burning in commercial orchards.

Section 91.06 DESIGNATED BURN DAYS

A. A County Burning Permit holder shall conduct burning only on days designated as BURN days.

B. Permit holders shall contact the designated County Burning Permit information number prior to initiating a burn in order to determine the designated burn status for the day, which will be either BURN or NO BURN. If both a morning and afternoon status report are provided, persons burning prior to 12:00 noon shall call for the morning burn status report and persons burning in the afternoon shall call for the afternoon burn status report, prior to igniting any fires after 12:00 noon.

C. Umatilla County shall make a daily determination of designated burn status.

D. The following days shall automatically constitute NO BURN days:

(1) Air stagnation days designated by the National Weather Service or which might unreasonably impact periods of noncompliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards for a local community, considering the meteorological and other ambient air conditions;

(2) Days on which the State Fire Marshall or designated agent has prohibited burning based on general fire safety conditions;

(3) Additional days so designated by the Board of Commissioners due to adverse weather conditions or prolonged dry conditions.

E. The designation of a BURN day shall apply to all areas of the county, unless, as technology and procedures permit doing so in
B. All open flame shall be extinguished no later than one hour after sunset, including smoldering piles of materials, unless there is at least one person designated to provide ongoing fire safety watch at all times, including through the night if necessary to assure fire safety.

C. There must be water spray equipment on the site with enough personnel to operate the equipment. For field burns or other isolated locations the equipment must be on a truck or other motor vehicle capable of travel over the area to be burned and the surrounding terrain.

D. On agricultural field burns and other large burns, the area to be burned must be surrounded by a fire break of at least 10 feet in width. The break may be a natural barrier, such as a road or summerfallow, or be plowed or disked to mineral soil by the permit holder.

E. For burn barrels, the barrels must be constructed of metal in good condition and have a heavy duty screen top. At least ten feet around the barrel must be clear of all material that could cause a fire to escape or to spread.

Section 91.09 POWER OF REVOCATION

A. The Director of the Umatilla County Planning Department, or the Director’s designee, shall have the power to refuse, to revoke, or to postpone issuance or use of burning permits when in the discretion of the Director or designee such action is necessary to prevent danger to life or property, or to protect air resources. The decision shall be made in accordance with all applicable statues, administrative rules, and ordinances.

B. Burning permits may be revised, suspended or cancelled by the Board of Commissioners or the State Fire Marshall due to severe fire hazard conditions, weather, or for smoke management.

Section 91.10 LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE OR INJURY

A. The issuance of a permit does not relieve any holder or person from responsibility for liability for any injury or damage that may result from any burning.

B. Each person may be responsible for damage to property, the cost of fighting a fire, and possibly civil or criminal penalties as a result of any burning.
Second Offense. Penalty equal to 100 percent of the applicable maximum Base Penalty.

Third Offense. Penalty equal to 250 percent of the applicable maximum Base Penalty.

Fourth Offense. Depending upon the severity of the violations, including especially actions which jeopardize maintaining open burning, the penalty shall be no less than 500 percent of the applicable maximum base penalty nor more than 750 percent, and the offender shall be declared an Habitual Offender.

(3) A Person violating this ordinance by burning without a permit or burning on a NO BURN day more than three times in three calendar years shall be declared an Habitual Offender. Following convictions for five or more other violations of this ordinance in three calendar years, the court judge may, depending on the severity of the violations, also declare the violator an Habitual Offender. An Habitual Offender shall immediately forfeit their current permit(s); and for a period of five years following the date of designation as an Habitual Offender, the party shall be denied any further County Burning or Smoke Management Permits.

E. Depending upon the nature of the offense, the violation may be reported to the Department of Environmental Quality and be subject to further penalties under the DEQ Enforcement Procedures and Civil Penalties provisions (see OAR Ch 340, Div 12).

F. For purposes of this ordinance, a "Violator" shall be considered to be the Person who ignited the fire, and/or the person that employs or contracts for the services of the person igniting the fire.

G. This regulation shall apply regardless of the organizational structure of the Person authorizing the burning. For purposes of this ordinance, an employer shall also include the Person that contracts for labor services.

H. The Person actually igniting the fire may be excused from a penalty under this ordinance if they can reasonably demonstrate that they were instructed to ignite the fire by their employer and that they were acting in accordance with their employer's instructions.
In the Matter of Implementation 
of Burning Permit Ordinance, 
Ordinance No. 94-05, amended, 
Codified at Chapter 91, Code of 
Ordinances, 

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has ordained a Smoke Management Ordinance for Umatilla County, Ordinance No. 98-09, which exempted small fires from the permit requirement and restriction of "No Burn" days;

WHEREAS, the Burning Permit Ordinance, Ordinance No. 94-05, does not allow for an exemption for small fires from the restriction of no burn days;

WHEREAS, the Umatilla County Public Works Department must conduct small fires for purposes of cleaning weeds from ditches and culverts at such time as the weather and staffing allows;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

The Umatilla County Road Department shall be exempt from the prohibition of burning on a no burn day under Ordinance No. 94-05 under a permit for burns containing less than four (4) cubic yard of materials required to clean weeds from field ditches; irrigation ditches and canals; right-of-ways; culverts; roadside barrow pits; and other similar small areas. Any burns within the boundaries of a rural fire protection district or forest protection district are still subject to the rules and regulations of the district.

DATED this 8th day of February, 1999.

UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Emile M. Holeman, Chairman

William S. Hansell, Commissioner

Dennis D. Doherty, Commissioner

ATTEST:
OFFICE OF COUNTY RECORDS

Records Officer