



research for winter highway maintenance

Lead Agency:
Minnesota DOT

**Clear Roads
Membership**

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Clear Roads is writing to update you on changes to the Qualified Product List (QPL) product submittal process, what the expiration date on the QPL list means, what to do about it, and how to stay in touch.

QPL Process Update

Clear Roads has worked tirelessly over the past several years to update the submittal process in a way that will decrease process time and retain important documents. This effort resulted in a new online form to complete for product submittals. The form is web-based, and once completed and submitted, will start the product review process. The software will keep the product review process on pace and automate email communications to minimize delays.

Product Expiration Date: 2024

The QPL list shows an expiration date of 12/31/2024 for all products, what does that mean? In our last letter to vendors in 2019, it was shared that a mechanism was needed to manage the QPL and keep it current. Establishing an expiration date is the mechanism we chose. It is the intent of Clear Roads to keep products listed that are still being manufactured. No additional testing is required to keep your product on the list; we just need to hear from you.

If you have a product listed on the QPL, and are still making and selling that product, please send an email to Patti.caswell@odot.oregon.gov. We need to hear from you no later than November 30, 2024. We will continue to use an expiration date to manage the QPL to keep the listing current.

Research-based decision-making

Similar to the Pacific Northwest Snowfighters, Clear Roads relies on research to inform decision-making regarding product specifications and modifications. A few research projects are currently in process that may have an impact on QPL specifications:

- [Standard Test Procedures for Ice Melting Capacity of Deicers](#)
- [Efficacy, Cost, and Impacts of Non-Chloride Deicers](#)
- pH Waiver for Deicing Products and the Qualified Products List (in contracting phase)

Once these research projects are completed, Clear Roads will determine how, if at all, specifications will change based on the results. Stay tuned for more information.

Improved Communication

Clear Roads strives to maintain a transparent and fluid product listing process. We have heard from some of you that communication between Clear Roads and QPL-interested parties could be improved. We are open to feedback and encourage all interested parties to sign up on the Clear Roads website to receive QPL-related news. Following is a list of

communication efforts to date:

- [Letter to vendors regarding changes to QPL management: July 2019](#)
- SICOP talks winter ops: [Podcast #45 Qualified Products List for Deicing Chemicals](#)
- [Pacific Northwest Snowfighters conference, Portland, Oregon, June 2023](#): Clear Roads QPL for Deicing Chemicals (Session 7, Track 2)
- Salt Symposium 2023: overview of Clear Roads and recent research including the QPL oversight.

We appreciate your interest in the Clear Roads QPL and look forward to hearing from you. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, concerns, or feedback on our project.

Patti Caswell
Chair, Clear Roads QPL Subcommittee
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