

September 12, 2003

FACT SHEET

FINAL FEDERAL PLAN FOR EXISTING COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SOLID WASTE INCINERATORS

TODAY'S ACTION

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing a Federal plan for existing commercial and industrial solid waste incinerators (CISWI) that were built on or before November 30, 1999. The Federal plan is a set of requirements that implements EPA's CISWI emission guidelines (EG), which were promulgated on December 1, 2000.
- The Federal plan will implement the emission guidelines for CISWI units located in States or Tribal areas that have not submitted an acceptable implementation plan to the EPA. The Federal plan will apply until individual States or Tribes have approved plans of their own in effect. For the majority of incinerators located in Indian Country and in U.S. territories, the Federal plan will be the sole authority compelling those sources to meet the final compliance deadline for required emission reductions.

The CISWI Federal plan applies to incinerators burning non-hazardous solid waste, such as rejected products that fail to meet production quality constraints, industrial sludges, packaging and shipping materials, wood wastes, construction and demolition materials, and other types of commercial and industrial wastes.

- EPA proposed this rule in November 2002. The Agency received comments and suggestions from nine interested parties.

BACKGROUND

- EPA promulgated guidelines to reduce air emissions from CISWI units on December 1, 2000. Within one year, the Clean Air Act requires States and Tribes with existing CISWI to submit implementation plans to EPA. These plans specify how the State or Tribe will implement and enforce the CISWI emission guidelines.
- Within two years of promulgation of the emission guidelines, the Clean Air Act requires the EPA to develop, implement, and enforce a Federal plan for existing CISWI units in any State or Tribal territory that has not submitted an approvable plan to the EPA .
- By issuing this CISWI Federal plan, the EPA is implementing and enforcing emission limits and other requirements for CISWI units in State and Tribal areas that do not develop approvable plans.

- The Federal plan contains the same elements that State and Tribal plans are required to contain, including source and emission inventories, emission limits, testing, monitoring, and reporting requirements, as well as compliance schedules that include milestones for progress.
- After State, Tribal and Federal implementation plans for CISWI units become effective, air emissions from incinerators will drop significantly. Key emissions reductions will include dioxin/furans by 65 percent, mercury by 34 percent, and hydrogen chloride by 89 percent.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- For further information about the CISWI Federal plan, contact Mr. David Painter of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5515. For technical information, contact Fred Porter at EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5251.
- EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's home page on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air pollution programs including air toxics issues. The Office of Air and Radiation's home page address is: <http://www.epa.gov/oar/>.
- Interested parties can download the CISWI Federal plan from EPA's web site under "recent actions" at the following address: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg>. For other information regarding commercial and industrial solid waste incineration, visit EPA's web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/129/ciwi/ciwipg.html>.