

FACT SHEET

DIRECT FINAL AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE FOR PETROLEUM REFINERIES

ACTION

- On December 4, 2013, the Environmental Protection Agency issued direct final amendments to the new source performance standards (NSPS) for petroleum refineries for which construction, reconstruction, or modification commenced after May 14, 2007.
- This rule amends the definition of “delayed coking unit” in NSPS subpart Ja by removing process piping and associated equipment (pumps, valves, and connectors) from the definition.
- This rule also removes a redundant definition of delayed coking unit from the rule text.
- Emissions from process piping and associated equipment (pumps, valves, and connectors) are already covered under regulations found in 40 CFR part 60, subparts GGG or GGGa. As such, there is no need to include these sources under the definition of “delayed coking unit” within 40 CFR part 60, subpart Ja.
- The inclusion of these sources within the definition of “delayed coking unit” is problematic in that very minor changes, such as adding a few valves and connectors for a new sample point or pressure gauge, would be considered a modification because these additional valves would increase the hourly emissions from the unit. The EPA did not intend for such small changes to these equipment components to constitute a modification of the delayed coking unit.
- The EPA is publishing these changes as a direct final rule because the changes are noncontroversial and no adverse comments are anticipated. These direct final rule amendments will be effective 90 days after publication in the *Federal Register*.
- If adverse comments are received within 45 days after publication, the EPA will publish a timely withdrawal in the *Federal Register* informing the public that some or all of the amendments in the final rule will not take effect. The EPA will address the comments in a subsequent final rule based on the parallel proposal issued in conjunction with these direct final rule amendments.

BACKGROUND

- Under the Clean Air Act, EPA is required to set new source performance standards. These standards are national air emission standards that limit the amount of air pollution from new sources or modified existing sources.
- The primary purpose of these requirements is to help areas attain and maintain air quality by ensuring that the best demonstrated emission control technologies are installed when it is most cost effective; this occurs as new facilities are updated and existing facilities are updated or expanded.
- The NSPS Subpart Ja final rule was published on September 12, 2012.

HOW TO COMMENT

- Comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2007-0011, may be submitted by one of the following methods:
 - www.regulations.gov: follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
 - Email: Comments may be sent by electronic mail (email) to:
a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov.
 - Fax: Fax your comments to: (202) 566-9744.
 - Mail: Send your comments to: Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code: 2822T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460.
 - Hand Delivery or Courier: Deliver your comments to: Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 3334, Washington, DC 20004. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- To download a copy of the final action from the EPA website, go to "Recent Actions" at the following address: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/new.html>.
- Today's final rule amendments and other background information are also available either electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, the EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, or in hardcopy at the EPA Docket Center's Public Reading Room.
 - The Public Reading Room is located in the EPA Headquarters, Room Number 3334 in the EPA West Building, located at 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern standard time, Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays.
 - Visitors are required to show photographic identification, pass through a metal detector and sign the EPA visitor log. All visitor materials will be processed through an X-ray machine as well. Visitors will be provided a badge that must be visible at all times.
 - Materials for this action can be accessed using Docket ID EPA-HQ-OAR-2007-0011.
- For further information about the final rules, contact Brenda Shine of the EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-3608 or shine.brenda@epa.gov.