

FACT SHEET

REVISION OF COMPLIANCE DEADLINES IN AIR TOXICS STANDARDS FOR WOOL FIBERGLASS MANUFACTURING FLAME ATTENUATION LINES

ACTION

- On June 6, 2017, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator signed a direct final rule and a parallel proposed rule that would extend the compliance date for wool fiberglass flame attenuation (FA) lines.
- The 2015 Wool Fiberglass Manufacturing Risk and Technology Review (RTR) allowed FA lines 2 years – until July 31, 2017 - to meet the emission limits in the standard.
- Under section 112 of the Clean Air Act, existing sources may be allowed up to 3 years to comply with emission limits.
- This action would extend the compliance date by 1 additional year, to July 30, 2018.

BACKGROUND

- Wool fiberglass is manufactured by melting recycled glass and raw mineral sands on a high temperature furnace. FA lines pull the molten glass through a dye, stretching the glass into thin fibers and attenuates the fiber with a high-temperature flame. One company operates four facilities manufacturing wool fiberglass on FA lines.
- The EPA published final amendments to the 1999 air toxics standards for wool fiberglass manufacturing on July 29, 2015. In that rule, we allowed sources operating FA lines up to 2 years to comply with the emission limits.
- An affected industry (Johns-Manville) notified the EPA that there was a laboratory error with the source test data upon which the limits were based.
- As a result of this error, the final FA line emission limits in the rule may also be erroneous.
- In this direct final rule, we are extending the compliance date for FA lines to allow up to 3 years (until July 31, 2018) for sources to meet the compliance requirements while we conduct our review of the corrected data. We are also issuing a parallel proposal in the event that we receive adverse comments and must address the comments before extending the compliance date.
- The Clean Air Act requires the EPA to regulate toxic air pollutants, also known as air toxics, from large industrial facilities in two phases.
- The first phase is “technology-based,” where the EPA develops standards for controlling the emissions of air toxics from sources in an industry group (or “source category”). These maximum achievable control technology (MACT) standards are based on emissions levels that are already being achieved by the controlled and low-emitting sources in an industry.
- The second phase is a “risk-based” approach called residual risk. Here, the EPA must determine whether more health-protective standards are necessary. Within 8 years of setting the MACT standards, the Clean Air Act requires the EPA to assess the remaining

health risks from each source category to determine whether the MACT standards protect public health with an ample margin of safety, and protect against adverse environmental effects.

- Every 8 years after setting the MACT standards, the Clean Air Act also requires the EPA to review and revise the standards, if necessary, to account for improvements in air pollution controls and/or prevention.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Interested parties can download the notice from the EPA's website at the following address: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/wool-fiberglass-manufacturing-national-emissions-standards>.
- Today's notice 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 Library, Room Number 3334 in the EPA WJC West Building, located at 1301 Constitution Avenue, 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 No.EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-1042.
- For further information, contact Brian Storey of the EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards by phone at (919) 541-1103, or by e-mail at: Storey.Brian@epa.gov.