

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[40 CFR Part 429]

[FRL 381-7]

TIMBER PRODUCTS PROCESSING POINT SOURCE CATEGORY

Proposed Pretreatment Standards for Existing Sources

Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 307(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (the Act); 33 U.S.C. 1251 1317(b); 86 Stat. 816 et seq.; Pub. L. 92-500, that the proposed regulation set forth below proposes pretreatment standards for pollutants introduced into publicly owned treatment works. The proposal will amend 40 CFR 429 Timber Products Processing Point Source Category, Subparts Q and R, establishing for each subcategory therein the extent of application of effluent limitations guidelines to existing sources which discharge to publicly owned treatment works. The regulation is intended to be complementary to the general regulation for pretreatment standards set forth at 40 CFR 128. The general regulation was proposed July 19, 1973 (38 FR 19236), and published in final form on November 8, 1973 (38 FR 30982).

The proposed regulation is also intended to supplement a final regulation being simultaneously promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency) which provides effluent limitations and guidelines for existing sources and standards of performance and pretreatment standards for new sources within the wood furniture and fixture production without water wash spray booth(s) or laundry facilities, and the wood furniture and fixture production with water wash spray booth(s) or with laundry facilities subcategories of the timber products processing point source category. The latter regulation applies to the portion of a discharge which is directed to the navigable waters. The regulation proposed below applies to users of publicly owned treatment works which fall within the description of the point source category to which the limitations and standards (40 CFR 429) promulgated simultaneously apply. However, the proposed regulation applies to the introduction of pollutants which are directed into a publicly owned treatment works, rather than to discharges of pollutants to navigable waters.

The general pretreatment standard divides pollutants discharged by users of publicly owned treatment works into two broad categories; "compatible" and "incompatible." Compatible pollutants are generally not subject to pretreatment standards. However, 40 CFR 128.131 (prohibited wastes) may be applicable to compatible pollutants. Additionally, local pretreatment requirements may apply (See 40 CFR 128.110). Incompatible pollutants are subject generally to pretreatment standards as provided in 40 CFR 128.133.

The regulation proposed below is intended to implement that portion of § 128.133, above, requiring that a sepa-

rate provision be made stating the application to pretreatment standards of effluent limitations guidelines based upon best practicable control technology currently available.

Questions were raised during the public comment period on the proposed general pretreatment standard (40 CFR 128) about the propriety of applying a standard based upon best practicable control technology currently available to all plants subject to pretreatment standards. In general, EPA believes the analysis supporting the effluent limitations guidelines is adequate to make a determination regarding the application of those standards to users of publicly owned treatment works. However, to ensure that those standards are appropriate in all cases, EPA now seeks additional comments focusing upon the application of effluent limitations guidelines to users of publicly owned treatment works.

Sections 429.166, 429.176, 429.186, and 429.196 of the proposed regulation for point sources within the wood furniture and fixture production without water wash spray booth(s) or laundry facilities, the wood furniture and fixture production without water wash spray booth(s) but with laundry facilities, the wood furniture and fixture production with water wash spray booth(s) but without laundry facilities, and the wood furniture and fixture production with water wash spray booth(s) and with laundry facilities subcategories (Nov. 14, 1974; 39 FR 40236), contained the proposed pretreatment standard for new sources. The regulation promulgated simultaneously herewith contains §§ 429.176 and 429.186 which states the applicability of standards of performance for purposes of pretreatment standards for new sources.

A preliminary Development Document was made available to the public at approximately the time of publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking and the final Development Document entitled "Development Document for Effluent Limitations Guidelines and New Source Performance Standards for the Wood Furniture and Fixture Manufacturing Segment of the Timber Products Processing Point Source Category" is now being published. The economic analysis report entitled "Economic Analysis of Proposed Effluent Guidelines, Wooden Furniture & Fixture Manufacturing Segment of Timber Products Processing Industry Phase II", was made available at the time of proposal. Copies of the final Development Document and economic analysis report will continue to be maintained for inspection and copying during the comment period at the EPA Freedom of Information Center, Room 204, West Tower, Waterside Mall, 401 M Street SW., Washington, D.C. Copies will also be available for inspection at EPA regional offices and at State water pollution control agency offices. Copies of the Development Document may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Copies of the economic analysis report will be available for purchase through the National

Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22151.

The Development Document referred to above contains information available to the Agency concerning the major environmental effects of the regulation proposed below. The information includes: (1) The identification of pollutants present in waste waters resulting from the manufacture of wood furniture and fixtures, the characteristics of these pollutants, and the degree of pollutant reduction obtainable through implementation of the proposed standard; and (2) the anticipated effects on other aspects of the environment (including air, subsurface waters, solid waste disposal and land use, and noise) of the treatment technologies available to meet the standard proposed.

The Development Document and the economic analysis report referred to above also contain information available to the Agency regarding the estimated cost and energy consumption implications of those treatment technologies and the potential effects of those costs on the price and production of wood furniture and fixtures. To the extent possible, significant aspects of the material have been presented in summary form in the preamble to the proposed regulation containing effluent limitations guidelines, new source performance standards and pretreatment standards for new sources within the wood furniture and fixture manufacturing category (39 FR 40236, Nov. 14, 1974). Additional discussion is contained in the analysis of public comments on the proposed regulation and the Agency's response to those comments. This discussion appears in the preamble to the promulgated regulation (40 CFR Part 429) which currently is being published in the Rules and Regulations section of the FEDERAL REGISTER.

The options available to the Agency in establishing the level of pollutant reduction obtainable through the best practicable control technology currently available, and the reasons for the particular level of reduction selected are discussed in the documents described above. In applying the effluent limitations guidelines to pretreatment standards for the introduction of incompatible pollutants into municipal systems by existing sources in the wood furniture and fixture production without water wash spray booth(s) or laundry facilities, and the wood furniture and fixture production with water wash spray booth(s) or with laundry facilities subcategories, the Agency has, essentially three options. The first is to allow unrestricted discharge to publicly owned treatment works of materials known to be adequately treated in such works (commonly classed as compatible pollutants). The second is to require the application of best practicable control technology based (1977) limitations to those pollutants which interfere with, pass through or otherwise are incompatible with such works. The third is to establish a different discharge limitation for those pollutants which are treated to a

known degree in publicly owned treatment works but such treatment is relatively inadequate.

The wood furniture and fixture manufacturing segment of the timber products processing industry includes an estimated 7,000 + plants. The largest single manufacturer controls only three percent of the market. More than 90 percent of the existing plants discharge to publicly owned treatment works.

The major sources of process waste water generated by this industry are from water wash spray booth operations, laundry operations for cleaning fabrics used in furniture and fixture finishing operations, and to a lesser extent, glue system clean up operations. All these operations result in a potential intermittent discharge. On-site laundry facilities are becoming less common in the furniture industry according to employees of the furniture industry contacted during development of these guidelines and standards. Many plants purchase this service from commercial laundries. The purpose of spray booths is to contain and collect excess material resulting from the application of finishing materials by spraying. There are two basic types of spray booths; dry booths and water wash booths. Furniture plants may have none, one type or both types. The material a water wash spray booth removes from the process air stream is usually a heavier than water, insoluble in water, material that collects in the water reservoir of the spray booth. Normal cleaning procedures involve removing the solid material from the reservoir by hand with appropriate tools and disposal as a solid waste.

Interested persons may participate in this rulemaking by submitting written comments in triplicate to the EPA Office of Public Affairs, Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C. 20460, Attention: Ms. Ruth Brown, A-107. Comments on all aspects of the proposed regulations are solicited. In the event comments are in the nature of criticisms as

to the adequacy of data which are available, or which may be relied upon by the Agency, comments should identify and, if possible, provide any additional data which may be available and should indicate why such data are essential to the development of the regulations. In the event comments address the approach taken by the Agency in establishing pretreatment standards for existing sources, EPA solicits suggestions as to what alternative approach should be taken and why and how this alternative better satisfies the detailed requirements of sections 301, 304, and 307(b) of the Act.

A copy of all public comments will be available for inspection and copying at the EPA Freedom of Information Center, Room 204, West Tower, Waterside Mall, 401 M Street SW., Washington, D.C. The EPA information regulation, 40 CFR 2, provides that a reasonable fee may be charged for copying.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is hereby proposed that 40 CFR 429 be amended to add §§ 429.174 and 429.184 as set forth below. All comments received on or before July 2, 1975, will be considered.

Dated: May 27, 1975.

RUSSELL E. TRAIN,
Administrator.

Subpart Q is amended by adding § 429.174 as follows:

§ 429.174 Pretreatment standard for existing sources.

The pretreatment standard under section 307(b) of the Act for a source within the wood furniture and fixture production without water wash spray booth(s) or laundry facilities subcategory which is a user of a publicly owned treatment and a major contributing industry as defined in 40 CFR 128 (and which would be an existing point source subject to section 301 of the Act, if it were to discharge pollutants to the navigable wa-

ters), shall be the standard set forth in Part 128 of this chapter, except that, for the purpose of this section, §§ 128.121, 128.122, 128.132, and 128.133 of this chapter shall not apply. The following pretreatment standard establishes the quantity or quality of pollutants or pollutant properties controlled by this section which may be discharged to a publicly owned treatment works by a point source subject to the provisions of this subpart.

Pollutant or pollutant property	Pretreatment standard
BOD ₅ -----	No limitation.
TSS-----	Do.
pH-----	Do.

Subpart R is amended by adding § 429.184 as follows:

§ 429.184 Pretreatment standard for existing sources.

The pretreatment standard under section 307(b) of the Act for a source within the wood furniture and fixture production with water wash spray booth(s) or with laundry facilities subcategory which is a user of a publicly owned treatment works and a major contributing industry as defined in Part 128 of this chapter (and which would be an existing point source subject to section 301 of the Act, if it were to discharge pollutants to the navigable waters), shall be the standard set forth in Part 128 of this chapter, except that, for the purpose of this section, §§ 128.121, 128.122, 128.132 and 128.133 of this chapter shall not apply. The following pretreatment standard establishes the quantity or quality of pollutants or pollutant properties controlled by this section which may be discharged to a publicly owned treatment works by a point source subject to the provisions of this subpart.

Pollutant or pollutant property	Pretreatment standard
BOD ₅ -----	No limitation.
TSS-----	Do.
pH-----	Do.

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