

FINAL AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL EMISSION STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANTS FOR CLAY CERAMICS MANUFACTURING

FACT SHEET

ACTION

- On October 10, 2019, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized amendments to the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Clay Ceramics Manufacturing, codified in 40 CFR 63, subpart KKKKK (Clay Ceramics Manufacturing NESHAP).
- The Clay Ceramics Manufacturing NESHAP includes provisions for two distinct subcategories, including ceramic tile (*e.g.*, pressed floor tile, pressed wall tile and other pressed tile) and sanitaryware (*e.g.*, sinks and toilets).
- Although a majority of these final amendments apply specifically to manufacturers of sanitaryware products, the action includes general provisions for emissions averaging, which provides alternative compliance requirements for *all* facilities subject to the Clay Ceramics Manufacturing NESHAP.
- In this action, EPA is finalizing revisions to the Clay Ceramics Manufacturing NESHAP. The final action reflects minor changes to the proposed amendments based on public comment and includes provisions to:
 - Revise the temperature monitoring methodology for demonstrating continuous compliance with dioxin/furan emissions limits from first-fire tunnel kilns;
 - Provide an alternative to the monitoring provisions for visual emissions from tunnel kiln exhaust stacks;
 - Amend the requirements for weekly visual inspections of system ductwork and control devices for water curtain spray booths;
 - Define cooling stacks and differentiate them from kiln exhaust stacks for compliance purposes; and
 - Include provisions to allow emissions averaging for particulate matter and mercury as well as make revisions to the definition of affected source and recordkeeping and reporting requirements.
- These final amendments will offer flexibility to the industry while maintaining the emission and operational standards of the 2015 final rule.

BACKGROUND

- The initial Clay Ceramics Manufacturing NESHAP was published on May 16, 2003. These standards were subsequently challenged and vacated by the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in 2007.

- Following the vacatur, EPA collected additional data and information to support new standards for the clay ceramics industry. Those new standards were finalized on October 26, 2015.
- On December 23, 2015, Kohler Company petitioned EPA for reconsideration of the Clay Ceramics Manufacturing NESHAP final rule.
- On August 20, 2018, EPA proposed amendments to the Clay Ceramics Manufacturing NESHAP final rule based on information provided by Kohler Company in its petition and other information collected by EPA.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Interested parties can download a copy of the final rule notice from EPA's website at the following address: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/clay-ceramics-manufacturing-national-emission-standards-hazardous>.
- Today's action and other background information are also available either electronically at <https://www.regulations.gov/>, 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 at EPA Headquarters Library, room number 3334 in the WJC West Building, 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 final action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0290.
 - For further technical information about the rule, contact Brian Storey, Sector Policies and Programs Division, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, at (919) 541-1103 or storey.brian@epa.gov.