

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Permit Compliance System (PCS) database. PCS provides EPA with a nationwide inventory of NPDES permit holders. EPA Headquarters uses the information contained in the PCS to develop reports on permit issuance, backlogs, and compliance rates. The Agency also uses the information to respond to public and Congressional inquiries, develop and guide its policies, formulate its budgets, assist States in acquiring authority for permitting programs, and manage its programs to ensure national consistency in permitting.

NPDES permit applications and requests for supplemental information currently require information about wastewater treatment systems, pollutants, discharge rates and volumes, whole effluent toxicity testing and other data. Additional information collection requirements that may be necessary to implement State, Tribal, or EPA promulgated provisions consistent with the final Guidance include: (1) Monitoring (pollutant-specific and whole effluent toxicity or WET); (2) pollutant minimization programs; (3) bioassays to support the development of water quality criteria; (4) antidegradation policy/demonstrations; and (5) regulatory relief options (e.g., variances from water quality criteria).

This information may be used to ensure compliance with provisions consistent with the Guidance and re-evaluate existing permit conditions and monitoring requirements. Data on discharges is entered into STORET and PCS, EPA's databases for ambient water quality data and NPDES permits, respectively. Results of water quality criteria testing will be entered into an EPA Information Clearinghouse database.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR Part 9 and 48 CFR Chapter 15. The **Federal Register** Notice required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on December 29, 1997, (62 FR 67637-67639); no comments were received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 18.8 hours per response. The burden will vary among dischargers and states and, depending on effluent quality, according to the requirements of the Guidance provisions. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended

by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Respondents/Affected Entities: Industries and local governments, as POTWs, discharging toxic pollutants to waters in the Great Lakes System as defined in 40 CFR 132.2; the governments of the eight Great Lakes States (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 588 major industrial and POTW dischargers, and 3,207 minor dischargers.

Frequency of Response: varies depending on dischargers effluent characteristics.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 43,395 hours.

Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden: \$2,504,000.

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 1639.03 and OMB Control No. 2040-0180 in any correspondence to: Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OPPE Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460; and, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: May 15, 1998.

Richard Westlund,

Acting Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 98-13612 Filed 5-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-U

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5990-3]

Delegation of National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Pennsylvania

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Information notice.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to announce that on January 5, 1998, EPA granted the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's request for partial delegation of the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs), and associated infrastructure programs. This request for partial delegation of authority only pertains to affected sources of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), for all source categories which are located at major sources. EPA granted the delegation with certain restrictions. The restrictions involve EPA's retainment of certain authorities including: implementation and enforcement of standards that control radionuclides or that apply to an area source which is not located at a major source, implementation and enforcement of an accidental release program, approvals of alternative means of limiting emissions, alternative control technologies, alternative test methods, alternative monitoring methods; and the authority to make certain applicability determinations. In addition, certain provisions will be delegated only on a case-by-case basis and require notification by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) to EPA. These provisions include: approvals of compliance extensions, site-specific test plans, performance evaluation plans; approvals of minor alternatives to test methods, monitoring, and shorter sampling times/volumes; and waivers of performance testing and record keeping.

EFFECTIVE DATES: The effective date of the delegation authority is January 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the requests for delegation of authority and EPA's letters of delegation are available for public inspection at EPA's Region III Office, 841 Chestnut Bldg., Philadelphia, PA 19107; PADEP's Central Office, the PADEP regional offices, the Allegheny County Bureau of Air Pollution Control office and the Philadelphia Air Management Services office during normal business hours. The addresses of these offices are provided below. Effective immediately, all notifications,

requests, applications, reports and other correspondence required pursuant to 40 CFR part 63 for major sources, as defined in 40 CFR part 70, to be sent to the Administrator should be submitted to EPA Region III office and, with respect to sources located in listed counties, to the following addresses. Although, by this delegation, PADEP is the sole agency authorized to implement and enforce the 40 CFR part 63 standards, Allegheny County Bureau of Air Pollution Control and Philadelphia Air Management Services will serve as agents to PADEP for the receipt of all notifications, requests, applications, reports and other correspondence required pursuant to 40 CFR part 63 for major sources, as defined in 40 CFR part 70 for Allegheny County and Philadelphia County, respectively. Allegheny County Bureau of Air Pollution Control and Philadelphia Air Management Services will notify PADEP's Central Office of the receipt of this information for proper implementation and enforcement.

PADEP Central Office—Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market Street, 12th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8468, Telephone: 717-787-9702, Contact: Permit Chief

PADEP Region I-Southeast Regional Office, Lee Park—Suite 6010, 555 North Lane, Conshohocken, PA 19428, Telephone: 610-832-6242, Contact: Program Manager
Counties: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery

PADEP Region II-Northeast Regional Office, Two Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711-0790, Telephone: 717-826-253, Contact: Program Manager, Counties: Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming

PADEP Region III-Southcentral Regional Office, One Ararat Boulevard, Harrisburg, PA 17110, Telephone: 717-657-4587, Contact: Program Manager, Counties: Adams, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, York

PADEP Region IV-Northcentral Regional Office, 208 West 3rd Street, Suite 101, Williamsport, PA 17701, Telephone: 717-327-3637, Contact: Program Manager
Counties: Bradford, Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, Union

PADEP Region V-Southwest Regional Office, 400 Waterfront Drive,

Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745, Telephone 412-442-4174, Contact: Program Manager, Counties: Armstrong, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland

PADEP Region VI-Northwest Regional Office, 230 Chestnut Street, Meadville, PA 16335-3481, Telephone 814-332-6940, Contact: Program Manager, Counties: Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Venango, Warren

Allegheny County—Allegheny County Health Department, Plan Review Section, Bureau of Air Pollution Control, 301 39th Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201, Telephone 412-578-8111

Philadelphia County—Department of Public Health, Air Management Services, 321 University Avenue, Spelman Building, Philadelphia, PA 19104, Telephone 215-823-7584

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dianne J. Walker, Permit and Technical Assessment Section (3AP11), Air Protection Division, EPA Region III, 841 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107, Telephone: 215-566-3297.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 112(l) of the Clean Air Act, as amended November 15, 1990, and 40 CFR part 63, subpart E, authorizes EPA to delegate authority to any state agency which submits adequate regulatory procedures for implementation and enforcement of emission standards of hazardous air pollutants. On February 13, 1996, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) requested partial delegation of authority to implement and enforce the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs) and associated infrastructure programs, pursuant to section 112 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), as set forth in 40 CFR part 63. This request was made in the CAA Title V Operating Permits Program Implementation Agreement which was negotiated between PADEP and EPA. This request for partial delegation of authority only pertains to affected sources of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), as defined in 40 CFR part 63, for all source categories which are located at major sources, as defined in 40 CFR part 70.

On July 30, 1996, EPA approved PADEP's Title V Operating Permits Program. Requirements for approval, specified in 40 CFR 70.4(b), encompass CAA section 112(l)(5) requirements for approval of a program for delegation of CAA section 112 standards as promulgated by EPA as they apply to 40

CFR part 70 sources. Section 112(l)(5) requires that the State's program contain adequate authorities, adequate resources for implementation and an expeditious compliance schedule for enforcing standards, which are also requirements under 40 CFR part 70. Therefore, as part of the Title V Operating Permits Program approval, EPA also promulgated full approval under CAA section 112(l)(5) and 40 CFR 63.91 of the State's program for receiving delegation of the CAA section 112 standards that are unchanged from Federal standards as promulgated in 40 CFR part 63. This program for delegation only applies to sources covered by the 40 CFR part 70 program.

On January 5, 1998, the Environmental Protection Agency granted the request for partial delegation with certain restrictions. The following authorities will be retained by EPA Region III: (1) implementation and enforcement of standards that control radionuclides (40 CFR 63.12(b)(1)); (2) implementation and enforcement of standards that apply to an area source, as defined in 40 CFR 63.2, which is not located at a major source, as defined in 40 CFR part 70; (3) implementation and enforcement of an accidental release program, as defined in CAA section 112(r) and 40 CFR part 68; (4) approval of alternative means of emission limitations and alternative control technologies; (5) approval of alternative test methods; (6) approval of alternative monitoring methods; and, (7) the authority to make certain applicability determinations, as required by formal requests from owners or operators of facilities or the public. In addition, certain provisions of 40 CFR part 63 are delegated on a case-by-case basis to PADEP and require PADEP to notify U.S. EPA Region III, in writing. These provisions include: (1) compliance extensions; (2) approval of site-specific test and performance evaluation plans; (3) approval of minor alternatives to test methods and monitoring; (4) approval of shorter sampling times/volumes; (5) waiver of performance testing and, (6) waiver of record keeping. As of January 5, 1998, PADEP has primary authority to enforce the standards in 40 CFR part 63 for CAA part 70 sources, however, EPA will retain independent enforcement authority. Pennsylvania has adopted by reference all existing NESHAPs and the corresponding amendments and revisions into 25 Code 127.35. Because PADEP will automatically incorporate by reference all future 40 CFR part 63 NESHAPs and all future amendments and revisions into 25 Code 127.35, this delegation will be automatic (i.e.,

delegation is granted upon Federal promulgation of a standard, amendment or revision).

If the Administrator determines that Pennsylvania cannot adequately implement or enforce the requirements of 40 CFR part 63, this delegation may be revoked in whole or in part.

EPA hereby notifies the public that it has partially delegated the authority for implementation and enforcement of the NESHAPS, pursuant to 40 CFR part 63, as outlined above, to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

The Office of Management and Budget has exempted this action informing the public of partial delegation of NESHAPS to PADEP, as outlined above, from Executive Order 12688 review. This notice is issued under the authority of sections 101, 110, 112 and 301 of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7401, 7410, 7412, 7601).

Dated: March 18, 1998.

Thomas Voltaggio,
Acting Regional Administrator, EPA Region III.

[FR Doc. 98-13618 Filed 5-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6100-1]

Interim Policy for Addressing Public Health and Welfare Impacts Caused by Wildland and Prescribed Fires in the Nation's Wildlands

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the EPA has issued an "Interim Air Quality Policy on Wildland and Prescribed Fires." The policy addresses public health and welfare impacts caused by wildland and prescribed fires in the Nation's wildlands (areas with little development, such as forests and grasslands). The policy applies to all wildland and prescribed fires managed to achieve resource benefits on public, Indian and privately owned wildlands, regardless of the cause of ignition (e.g., lightning, land management decision, accidental, etc.) or purpose of the fire (e.g., resource management, hazard reduction, etc.). The policy does not apply to other open burning activities, such as burning at residential, commercial or industrial sites; open burning of land-clearing waste or construction debris. It also does not apply to open burning of agricultural

waste, crop residue or land in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Conservation Reserve Program.

This is an interim policy for two reasons. First, EPA expects recommendations from the USDA based on input from USDA's Air Quality Task Force on how to address public health and welfare impacts caused by agricultural burning. Those recommendations may affect the Agency's understanding of fires in the wildlands versus agricultural fires. Second, until the final rules for implementing EPA's regional haze program are promulgated, it is not possible to formulate final policy with respect to the impact of wildland and prescribed fires on regional haze.

The policy was issued in response to plans by some Federal, tribal and State wildland owners/managers to significantly increase the use of wildland and prescribed fires to achieve resource benefits. The absence of fire effects, due to past management practices, has allowed plant species (e.g., trees and shrubs) that would normally be eliminated by fires to proliferate, vegetation to become dense and insect infestations to go unchecked. In response, wildland owners/managers plan to significantly increase their use of fires to correct these unhealthy conditions and to reduce the risk of wildfires to public and fire fighter safety. The policy integrates two public policy goals: (1) to allow fire to function, as nearly as possible, in its natural role in maintaining healthy wildland ecosystems; and (2) to protect public health and welfare by mitigating the impacts of air pollutant emissions on air quality and visibility.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions on the policy, contact Mr. Kenneth Woodard, U.S. EPA, MD-15, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711, telephone (919) 541-5697, or Mr. Gary Blais, U.S. EPA, MD-15, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711, telephone (919) 541-3223.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EPA does not directly regulate the use of fire within a State or on Indian lands. The EPA's authority is to enforce the Clean Air Act requirements to attain and maintain the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) adopted to protect public health and welfare. This policy recommends that States/tribes implement smoke management programs (SMP's) to mitigate the public health and welfare impacts of fires managed for resource benefits. The goals of SMP's are to mitigate the nuisance and public safety hazards (e.g., on roadways and at airports, etc.) posed by

smoke intrusions into populated areas; to prevent deterioration of air quality and NAAQS violations; and to address visibility impacts in mandatory Class I Federal areas. The SMP's establish procedures and requirements for minimizing air pollutant emissions and managing smoke dispersion.

Electronic Availability

A World Wide Web site has been developed for policy and guidance issued by the Office of Air and Radiation. The Uniform Resource Location for the home page of the web site is <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg>. For assistance, the TTN Helpline is (919) 541-5384. For those persons without electronic capability, a copy may be obtained from Ms. Virginia Wyatt, MD-15, Air Quality Strategies and Standards Division, RTP NC 27711, telephone (919) 541-5628.

Dated: May 15, 1998.

Jeffrey S. Clark,
Acting Director, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards.

[FR Doc. 98-13616 Filed 5-20-98; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6100-4]

Public Water System Supervision Program Revision for the State of Ohio

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Public notice is hereby given in accordance with the provision of section 1413 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 300f *et seq.*, and 40 CFR part 142, subpart B, the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR), that the State of Ohio is revising its approved Public Water System Supervision (PWSS) primacy program. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) has adopted new analytical methods, withdrawn outdated analytical methods, and updated older analytical methods for regulated drinking water contaminants. The OEPA has also removed legally obsolete or redundant rules from its regulations, and has adopted technical amendments to correct typographical errors and clarify regulatory language. These regulations correspond to the NPDWRs promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) on June 30, 1994, (59 FR 33860-33864); on July 1, 1994, (59 FR 34320-34325); on June 29, 1995, (60