

FACT SHEET

Final Amendments to Air Toxics Standards for Petroleum Refineries NESHAP; Ethylene Production MACT; the Miscellaneous Organic Chemical Manufacturing NESHAP (MON); and the Organic Liquids Distribution (OLD) NESHAP

ACTION

- On March 15, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized amendments to several National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) in response to petitions for reconsideration.
- The rules are:
 - Petroleum Refineries;
 - Ethylene Production (EMACT);
 - Miscellaneous Organic Chemical Manufacturing NESHAP (MON); and
 - Organic Liquids Distribution (OLD)
- EPA is finalizing several amendments to the rules in response to petitions for reconsideration. They include:
 - Revisions to the work practice standard for pressure relief devices and emergency flaring related to the *force majeure* exemption provisions in the EMACT standards, MON, and Petroleum Refineries MACT. This update means that releases from pressure relief devices and smoking emergency flares during force majeure conditions must be evaluated and accounted for.
 - Clarifications in the EMACT standards, OLD NESHAP, and MON on storage vessel degassing provisions such that a floating roof storage vessel may be opened prior to degassing to set up equipment (i.e., make connections to a temporary control device), but this must be done in a limited manner and operators must not actively purge the storage vessel while connections are made.
 - Revisions that allow for heat exchange system leak monitoring using water sampling methods in limited instances where MON processes have water soluble compounds.
 - Other technical corrections and clarifications.
- EPA does not expect the amendments to change the air toxics emissions reductions from the four rules.

BACKGROUND

- EPA finalized the Petroleum Refineries NESHAP Risk and Technology Review (RTR) in December 2015, with subsequent amendments in July 2016, July 2018, and February 2020. The Ethylene Production RTR and OLD NESHAP RTR were finalized in July 2020, and the MON RTR was finalized in August 2020.
- In April 2020, Earthjustice submitted a petition for reconsideration of the Petroleum Refineries final rule. EPA previously denied the April 2020, petition for reconsideration. In September 2020, Earthjustice submitted a petition for reconsideration of the EMACT regarding the work practice standards for PRDs and emergency flaring events. Also in

September 2020, the American Chemistry Council and American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers (AFPM) also submitted a joint petition for reconsideration of the EMAX regarding the standards for degassing of floating roof storage vessels and technical corrections.

- EPA also received five petitions for reconsideration on the MON final rule, on many issues, including work practice standards for PRDs and emergency flaring. The American Petroleum Institute, AFPM, and Earthjustice filed petitions for reconsideration on the OLD final rule, related to the work practice standards for degassing floating roof storage vessels.
- EPA proposed amendments to the rules in April 2023 response to the reconsideration petitions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Interested parties can read a copy of the final rule notice on EPA's website at the following addresses:
 - <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/petroleum-refinery-sector-rule-risk-and-technology-review-and-new>,
 - <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/acetal-resins-acrylic-modacrylic-fibers-carbon-black-hydrogen>,
 - <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/miscellaneous-organic-chemical-manufacturing-national-emission>, and
 - <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/organic-liquids-distribution-national-emission-standards-hazardous>
- Today's action and other background information are also available electronically at <https://www.regulations.gov/>, EPA's electronic public docket and comment system.
 - The Public Reading Room is located at EPA Headquarters library, room number 3334 in the EPA WJC West Building, 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 final action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0787.