

FACT SHEET

FINAL AMENDMENTS TO LIMIT AIR EMISSIONS FROM BULK GASOLINE TERMINALS

ACTION

- ! On December 12, 2003 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) took final action to amend a rule that limits emissions of toxic air pollutants and amend a rule that limits volatile organic compounds (VOC) from gasoline distribution terminals.
- ! The final amendments apply to bulk terminals that store and transfer gasoline and then distribute the gasoline to other users such as service stations. Approximately 100 bulk terminals may be effected by today's final amendments.
- ! EPA issued Standards of Performance to control emissions of volatile organic compounds from gasoline terminals in 1983. In 1994, the Agency issued a final rule to limit toxic air emissions from the same facilities.
- ! The final amendments will not change control levels or compromise the environmental protection of the earlier rules. These final amendments will provide clarification and alternatives that enhance the flexibility of the recordkeeping and testing requirements of the two rules.
- ! Specifically, the amendments will provide owners and operators of bulk gasoline terminals:
 - < an alternative leak test procedure for railcars under EPA's 1994 air toxics requirements;
 - < clarification on what type of monitor can be used for open and enclosed flares used to comply with the 1994 air toxics requirements;
 - < an alternative recordkeeping requirement for tank trucks and railcars complying with the 1983 and 1994 rules; and
 - < flare design specifications for the 1983 standards of performance.
- ! The final rule amendments will take effect on the date of publication in the *Federal Register*.

BACKGROUND

- ! EPA issued Standards of Performance for Bulk Gasoline Terminals on August 18, 1983. Those standards limit and control volatile organic compounds from new gasoline bulk terminals. Volatile organic compounds react with other air pollutants to form ozone (or smog). Ozone has been linked to respiratory impairments and eye irritations, and negatively affects vegetation and ecosystems.
- ! EPA issued National Emission Standards for Gasoline Distribution Facilities (Bulk Gasoline Terminals and Pipeline Breakout Stations) on December 14, 1994. The 1994 standards limit air emissions of toxic air pollutants, also known as air toxics. Air toxics are known or suspected to cause cancer or have other serious health and environmental effects.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

- ! Interested parties can download the amendments from EPA's web site on the Internet under recently signed rules at the following address: www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/ramain.html.
- ! For additional information, visit the EPA's website at: www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/gasdist/gasdisp.html, or contact *Stephen A. Shedd* of the EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5397 or by e-mail at shedd.steve@epa.gov.
- ! EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's homepage on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program, as well as many other air pollution programs and issues. The address is: www.epa.gov/oar/.