

## FACT SHEET

### RECONSIDERATION OF THE FINAL AIR TOXICS STANDARDS FOR FERROALLOYS PRODUCTION

#### ACTION

- On June 30, 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed a notice of reconsideration; proposed rule, and request for public comment, regarding three issues raised in petitions received on the final air toxics standards for ferroalloys production.
- This action requests comment on the following three issues identified in the petitions:
  - The increase in polyaromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) compliance test frequency in the final rule from what was proposed;
  - The use of digital camera opacity technique for determining compliance with the opacity standards; and
  - Continuous monitoring with bag leak detection systems for positive-pressure baghouses.
- The EPA is not proposing any changes to the rule in this action.

#### BACKGROUND

- In the Ferroalloys Production source category, there are two main products. Ferromanganese is a ferroalloy with a high concentration of manganese and iron, and silicomanganese is a ferroalloy with a high concentration of manganese and silicon. Both products are used in steelmaking and foundry activities.
- The EPA published final amendments to the air toxics standards for ferroalloys production on June 30, 2015.
- The final rule required facilities to:
  - capture at least 95 percent of fugitive emissions and route them to control devices;
  - use digital camera opacity technology for opacity monitoring;
  - meet mercury and PAH emission limits for ferromanganese and silicomanganese production sources; and
  - continue to meet a strengthened particle pollution emission limit that reflects current performance of control devices in the industry.
- The estimated reductions in emissions of hazardous air pollutants expected to be achieved by the final rule (about 77 tons per year) will provide significant benefits to public health. This includes reductions in emissions of metals, such as manganese, nickel, chromium, cadmium, and lead; mercury; PAHs; and fine particles.

- Following publication of the final rule, the EPA received two petitions for reconsideration from the affected facilities, Eramet Marietta and Felman Production.
- The Clean Air Act requires the EPA to regulate toxic air pollutants, also known as air toxics, from large industrial facilities in two phases.
- The first phase is “technology-based,” where EPA develops standards for controlling the emissions of air toxics from sources in an industry group (or “source category”). These maximum achievable control technology (MACT) standards are based on emissions levels that are already being achieved by the controlled and low-emitting sources in an industry.
- The second phase is a “risk-based” approach called residual risk. Here, EPA must determine whether more health-protective standards are necessary. Within 8 years of setting the MACT standards, the Clean Air Act directs EPA to assess the remaining health risks from each source category to determine whether the MACT standards protect public health with an ample margin of safety, and protect against adverse environmental effects.
- Every 8 years after setting the MACT standards, the Clean Air Act requires that EPA review and revise the standards, if necessary, to account for improvements in air pollution controls and/or prevention.

## **HOW TO COMMENT**

- The EPA will accept comments for 45 days after the notice is published in the *Federal Register*.
- Comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0895 may be submitted by one of the following methods:
  - Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
  - Send comments by email to a-and-r- Docket@epa.gov, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0895.
  - Fax your comments to: 202-566-9744, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0895.
  - Mail your comments to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code: 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0895.
  - Deliver comments in person to: EPA Docket Center, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 3334, Washington, DC. Note: In person deliveries (including courier deliveries) are only accepted during the Docket’s normal hours of operation. Special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- Interested parties can download the notice from the EPA's website at the following address: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/ferroa/ferropg.html>.
- Today's notice and other background information are also available either electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, the 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 in the EPA Headquarters Library, Room Number 3334 in the EPA WJC West Building, located at 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 action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0895.
- For further information, contact Phil Mulrine of the EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards by phone at (919) 541-5289, or by e-mail at: [mulrine.phil@epa.gov](mailto:mulrine.phil@epa.gov).