

# **FINAL RULE: NATIONAL EMISSION STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANTS FROM THE PORTLAND CEMENT MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY: ALTERNATIVE MONITORING METHOD**

## **FACT SHEET**

### **ACTION**

- On June 19, 2017, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) extended its approval for the use of an alternative monitoring method to show compliance with hydrogen chloride (HCl) emissions limits in the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants from the Portland Cement Manufacturing Industry.
- This alternative compliance monitoring method allows facilities in the source category to meet their obligations by using their continuous monitoring equipment as parametric monitors.
- Portland cement manufacturing is an energy-intensive process that grinds and heats a mixture of raw materials such as limestone, clay, sand and iron ore in a rotary kiln. That product, called clinker, is cooled, ground and then mixed with a small amount of gypsum to produce cement.
- A variety of pollutants are emitted from the burning of fuels and heating of raw materials. Emissions also can occur from grinding, cooling and materials-handling steps in the manufacturing process.
- EPA limits air toxics from Portland cement manufacturing facilities based on the performance of maximum achievable control technology, or MACT.

### **BACKGROUND**

- In July 2016, the EPA provided an alternative compliance monitoring method for HCl because the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)-certified calibration gases used to calibrate HCl continuous emissions monitoring systems at Portland cement manufacturing facilities were not readily available. The alternative method was approved for 1 year because the EPA believed the NIST-certified calibration gases would become available within the year.
- The EPA has determined that NIST-certified calibration gases continue to be unavailable for use by the source category. Therefore, the EPA is extending the use of the alternative method until such time when the NIST-certified calibration gases become readily available.

## TO READ THE FINAL RULE AND OTHER INFORMATION:

- **Visit EPA’s website** at: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/portland-cement-manufacturing-industry-national-emission-standards>.
- Other places to read the rule and background information (use Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0442):
  - **EPA’s electronic public docket and comment system** at <http://www.regulations.gov>.
  - **The EPA Docket Center’s Public Reading Room** (for hard copies).
    - The Public Reading Room is located at EPA Headquarters, Room Number 3334, 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.
    - You will have to show photo identification, pass through a metal detector and sign the EPA visitor log. Any materials you bring with you will be processed through an X-ray machine as well. You will be provided a badge that must be visible at all times.
- For further technical information about the rule, contact Brian Storey of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-1103 or [storey.brian@epa.gov](mailto:storey.brian@epa.gov) .