

FINAL RULE: PORTLAND CEMENT MANUFACTURING RESIDUAL RISK AND TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

FACT SHEET

ACTION

- On July 13, 2018, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued final amendments to the Portland Cement Manufacturing Industry National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants.
- 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. The primary use of cement is to produce concrete, formed by mixing cement with gravel, sand and water.
- 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. To control these emissions, EPA has set maximum achievable control technology (MACT) standards, which include emission limits for particulate matter, non-dioxin total hydrocarbons, hydrogen chloride, dioxins/furans and mercury.
- After conducting a risk analysis of facility emissions under the fully implemented MACT standards, EPA found no appreciable health or ecological risks due to air toxics emissions and, thus, risks are acceptable. Furthermore, EPA identified no cost-effective controls under the technology review to achieve further emission reductions. EPA is not finalizing any revisions based on the residual risk and technology review.
- These final amendments correct and clarify rule requirements and provisions, which will improve monitoring, compliance and implementation of the rule.

BACKGROUND

- The Portland Cement Manufacturing Industry Residual Risk and Technology Review rulemaking was included in a consent decree issued on September 26, 2011, by the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. Under this court decision, EPA is required to finalize amendments to this the rule by July 15, 2018.
- The Clean Air Act requires EPA to regulate hazardous 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 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 requires 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 also requires EPA to review and revise the standards, if necessary, to account for improvements in air pollution controls and/or prevention.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Interested parties can download the notice from EPA's web site at the following address: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/portland-cement-manufacturing-industry-national-emission-standards>.
- Today's final rule and other background information are also available either electronically at <https://www.regulations.gov>, EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, or in hardcopy at EPA Docket Center's Public Reading Room.
 - The Public Reading Room is located in EPA Headquarters Library, Room Number 3334 in 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 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 2016-0442
- For further information about the notice, contact Brian Storey of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Sector Policies and Programs Division at (919) 541-1103 or by email at storey.brian@epa.gov.