

FACT SHEET

Proposed Amendments to Large Municipal Waste Combustor Standards

ACTION

- On December 20th, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed to amend the 1995 Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources and Emission Guidelines for Existing Sources: Large Municipal Waste Combustors (LMWCs). EPA last amended these requirements on May 10, 2006.
- EPA is proposing these revisions according to Clean Air Act section 129(a)(5)'s "five-year review" requirement and a voluntary remand to re-evaluate the original 1995 standards.
- In this action, we are proposing revisions to all emission limits for existing sources, except for carbon monoxide limits for two subcategories of combustors, and all emission limits for new sources. During the Clean Air Act-mandated periodic review, EPA identified cost-effective advances in NO_x emission controls. The Agency is proposing those controls. EPA is also proposing to:
 - Remove exemptions and exclusions for startup, shutdown, and malfunction.
 - Add provisions for electronic reporting of certain notifications and reports.
 - Revise recordkeeping requirements.
 - Clarify title V permitting requirements for certain air curtain incinerators.
 - Close a 2007 reconsideration action.
 - Make other technical edits, clarifications, and revisions intended to improve the understanding of the rule and improve consistency with other incineration rules.
- The standards proposed today would apply to 57 facilities with 152 units that have the capacity to combust more than 250 tons per day of municipal solid waste. The proposed amendments would result in an estimated 14,000 tons per year reduction in regulated pollutants.
- After accounting for compliance costs of the rule, EPA estimated the net present value of health benefits from the proposed rule, due to reductions in particulate matter and ozone, to be up to \$14 billion (in 2022 dollars) over 20 years. This does not include additional potential benefits from reductions of mercury and other hazardous air pollutants, which EPA did not estimate. No impacts to small municipalities or entities are expected.

BACKGROUND

- LMWC standards are issued under Clean Air Act Section 129 which requires EPA to develop standards based on the application of Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT).
- These standards are based on emission levels achieved by the best controlled and lower emitting sources and limit emissions of nine pollutants: particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, hydrogen chloride, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, lead, cadmium, mercury, and dioxins/furans.

- The Clean Air Act requires EPA to review the standards every 5 years and revise, if necessary, to account for developments in practices, processes, or control technologies for reducing air pollution.

HOW TO COMMENT

- EPA will accept comment on the proposal for 60 days after publication in the *Federal Register*.
- Comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0183, may be submitted by one of the following methods:
 - Go to <https://www.regulations.gov/> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
 - Send comments by email to: *a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov*, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0183.
 - Fax your comments to: (202) 566-9744, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0183.
 - 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-2017-0183.
 - 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 a copy of the proposed rule notice from EPA's website at the following address: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/large-municipal-waste-combustors-lmwc-new-source-performance>.
- Today's action and other background information are also available electronically at <https://www.regulations.gov>, 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 at the EPA Headquarters library, room number 3334 in the 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 proposed action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0183.