

FACT SHEET

Final Amendments to Air Toxics Standards for Rubber Tire Manufacturers

- On November 13, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized amendments to the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Rubber Tire Manufacturing.
- Specifically, the amendments in this rulemaking address unregulated emissions of hazardous air pollutants (HAP) from the rubber processing subcategory and will fulfill the EPA's obligation to address all HAP listed in the Clean Air Act for this source category.
- In addition, this rule establishes new standards for the rubber tire industry that meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act.
- The EPA is committed to developing a regulation that protects public health while also minimizing the impacts to the rubber tire manufacturing industry.
- In developing this rulemaking, EPA was responsive to industry concerns and took into consideration all public comments received.
- This action will reduce total emissions of total hydrocarbons (THC) and filterable particulate matter (fPM) from the rubber tire manufacturing source category by approximately 171 tons per year.
- EPA estimates that these amendments will have a total cost to industry of approximately \$13.3 million per year.
- EPA's analysis shows that no owner affected by this rule will incur total annualized costs of 0.04 percent or greater of their revenues.

ACTION

- This action finalizes maximum achievable control technology (MACT) standards for the rubber processing subcategory for THC as a surrogate for organic hazardous air pollutants (o-HAP) and fPM as a surrogate for metal HAP.
- The agency is also finalizing a metal HAP standard as an alternative to the fPM limit as well as facility-wide averaging as an alternative for both THC and fPM standards.
- This action also requires facilities to demonstrate initial compliance with the amendments through emissions testing, with subsequent compliance testing to be performed every five years.
- The EPA proposed these revisions pursuant to the decision in *Louisiana Environmental Action Network v. EPA*, 955 F.3d 1088 (D.C. Cir. 2020), in which the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit held that the EPA must address unregulated emissions from a major source category when the Agency conducts the periodic review required by the Clean Air Act section 112(d)(6).

BACKGROUND

- The Rubber Tire Manufacturing source category consists of facilities that produce rubber tire components including rubber compounds, sidewalls, tread, tire beads, tire cord, and liners.
- The source category is split into four subcategories: rubber processing, tire production, tire cord production, and puncture sealant application.
- In 2002, EPA promulgated the original Rubber Tire Manufacturing NESHAP and established emission limits for three of the subcategories: tire production, tire cord production, and puncture sealant application.
- In 2020, EPA finalized the results of a residual risk and technology review (RTR), which found risk associated with air emissions from rubber tire manufacturing to be acceptable and that the current NESHAP provided an ample margin of safety to protect public health. The 2020 RTR clarified that emissions during startup, shutdown and malfunction are subject to the NESHAP and included provisions regarding electronic reporting.
- In *Louisiana Environmental Action Network v. EPA*, the D.C. Court held that EPA has an obligation to address unregulated emissions from a source category when the agency conducts an 8-year technology review required by the Clean Air Act (CAA).
- In 2022, EPA sent CAA section 114 information requests to all major source rubber tire manufacturing companies within the United States. In response to the information request, EPA received emissions data from the rubber processing subcategory that we did not have in 2002 when the rubber tire manufacturing NESHAP was first promulgated or in 2020 when we conducted the RTR.
- On November 16, 2023, based on data obtained from the information collection request, EPA proposed emission standards to address unregulated HAP for the rubber processing subcategory.
- Today's action finalizes the proposed emission standards.

NEW MACT STANDARDS

- The final amendments set MACT standards for the rubber processing subcategory for THC (as a surrogate for o-HAP), fPM (as a surrogate for metal HAP), and an alternative for metal HAP pursuant to the CAA. Additionally, EPA is establishing a facility-wide averaging alternatives for both THC and fPM.
- The MACT standards for existing sources is calculated based on the average performance of the best-performing units in the rubber processing subcategory, and the MACT standards for new sources are based on the single best-performing source.
- In this action, new sources are required to demonstrate initial compliance 180 days after start-up and existing sources demonstrate initial compliance within 3 years after promulgation of the rule.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Interested parties can download a copy of the final rule from EPA's website at the following address: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/rubber-tire-manufacturing-national-emission-standards-hazardous>
- This final 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 final action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2019-0392.