United States Environmental Protection Agency

Fact Sheet

Proposed Rule: Additional Reconsideration Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources: Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review

At its core, oil and gas power and drive America forward. Without thinking about it, Americans use oil and gas throughout their day—it is the gas they put in their cars, the gas used to heat their homes, the diesel that farmers use to run their tractors to grow our food, that American truckers rely on to transport virtually all consumer goods.

In 2024, the Biden EPA slapped on burdensome and unnecessary oil and gas regulations that amounted to $18 billion in costs for Americans. T**he Trump EPA heard the same message from all oil and natural gas producers—from the largest producers to families with a single well —the Biden regulations were unworkable and were holding back American energy dominance.** But it wasn't just the producers and operators who suffered, it was every American, in every state. The costs the Biden EPA imposed on the oil and gas producers trickled down to every single American through less domestic production and higher prices. On March 12, 2025, EPA announced a comprehensive reconsideration of the Biden-era OOOOb/c. This is not a typo, OOOOb/c is the technical name for federal Clean Air Act (CAA) standards for the oil and gas industry. Ever since, the Trump EPA has been working to fix this wrong through a number of actions, with the latest regulatory proposal being announced on October 27, 2026. **For a complete timeline of the Trump EPA's Oil & Gas Reconsideration, click here.**

Summary of Action

- On October 27, 2026, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed revisions to the 2024 Clean Air Act (CAA) New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) and Emissions Guidelines (EG) for the oil and natural gas industry, commonly referred to as NSPS OOOOb and EG OOOOc, to significantly reduce the regulatory burden imposed by the Biden-Harris Administration.
- The proposal is expected to deliver **$45 billion in savings and unleash an estimated additional 210 million barrels of U.S. oil production and over 1.4 trillion cubic square feet of U.S. natural gas.**
- With less overhead costs for producers and more oil and gas production within the U.S., Americans will directly feel the cost savings. The increased production will translate to lower gas and diesel prices, lower heating costs for homes, lower food prices, and more energy jobs.

Proposed Revisions and Comment Solicitation

- **Certain Well Sites:** EPA is proposing changes for owners and operators of low-producing oil and gas wells, commonly referred to as marginal (or stripper) wells. EPA is co-proposing two options to create subcategories for certain well sites with respective standards for each subcategory:
    - Creating oil and natural gas well site subcategories based on production level (i.e., marginal or non-marginal wells)
    - Creating oil and natural gas well site subcategories based on resource type (i.e., conventional or unconventional)
- **Super Emitter Program:** After reviewing early program experience, EPA is proposing to rescind the program, because it is not necessary to meet CAA requirements, is not effective, and because the statutory authority bases cited in the 2024 Final Rule are inadequate to maintain the program. EPA proposes that other provisions in the 2024 Final Rule already provide timely, actionable, information that enables operators to detect and address significant emission events, making the separate program unnecessary.
- **Covers and Closed Vent Systems:** EPA is proposing to amend standards for covers and closed vent systems "No Identifiable Emissions" into two parts: design requirements and operational

requirements. Current requirements treat any emission as a deviation. Under the proposed changes, a brief repair window would be built into the operational requirements, so emissions fixed within that timeframe would not be considered a deviation.

- **Associated Gas:** Since the 2024 Final Rule, EPA identified issues with the associated gas standards. To make compliance reasonable, EPA is proposing to revisit the overall approach to regulating associated gas from oil wells, including routing to a device control or a flare as the best system of emissions reduction.
    - Alternatively, EPA is also soliciting comment on maintaining the basic structure of the current associated gas standards and proposing discrete amendments to address implementation challenges.
- **Control Devices**: In the 2024 Final Rule, EPA finalized various requirements related to control devices. EPA is proposing targeted technical changes and soliciting comment on various technical aspects of control device monitoring to provide flexibility where appropriate. EPA is proposing technical changes for the following control device topics: flame monitoring data deviations, control device alerts, visible emissions test conditions, control devices used on a temporary or backup basis, temporary process controllers, and control device categories.
- **Other Proposed Changes**: EPA is proposing revisions to liquids unloading, process controllers, pumps, appendix K allowance, and other technical corrections.
- **Soliciting Comment:** In addition to the above key aspects of the proposal, EPA seeks comment on repealing various elements of the 2024 Final Rule, including:
    - Process controllers standards
    - Fugitive emissions monitoring and equipment leaks monitoring at natural gas processing plants
    - Recordkeeping and reporting requirements
    - All other aspects of this proposal and alternatives or outstanding requirements from the 2024 Final Rule

How to Comment

- EPA will hold a virtual public hearing for this action 15 days after publication in the *Federal Register*. Further details about the public hearing, including registration, will be available at https://www.epa.gov/controlling-air-pollution-oil-and-natural-gas-operations/2026-actions-reduce-burden-oil-and-natural
- EPA will accept comments for 48 days after the proposal is published in the *Federal Register*.
- Comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2025-0163, may be submitted via one of the following methods:
    - Go to https://www.regulations.gov/ and follow the online instructions for submitting a comment (our preferred method).
    - Mail: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center, Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2025-0163 Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460.
    - Hand/Courier Delivery: EPA Docket Center, WJC West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004. The Docket Center's hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (except federal holidays).
- For more information on this action, please visit our Web site: https://www.epa.gov/controlling-air-pollution-oil-and-natural-gas-operations
- This action and other background information are also available online at https://www.regulations.gov/. Materials for this proposed action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2025-0163.