

# NATIONAL PERCHLOROETHYLENE AIR EMISSION STANDARDS FOR DRY CLEANING FACILITIES

## FACT SHEET

### ACTION

- On July 7, 2008, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a final rule clarifying amendments to its July 27, 2006 air toxics regulation for perchloroethylene (perc) dry cleaning facilities.
- This action addresses a direct-final rule and a parallel proposal that EPA issued on April 1, 2008 to make corrections to the July 27, 2006 rule. Because EPA received comments on this direct final rule some of which were adverse, EPA is withdrawing the direct final rule, addressing comments by making changes to the parallel proposal, and publishing a final rule. EPA is combining these actions into one notice to ensure corrections are made before the July 28, 2008 compliance deadline.
- This action:
  - Adopts the corrections from the direct final rule for which no adverse comments were received, including an amendment to clarify that all sources have the option to use either temperature or pressure methods when monitoring condenser performance; and,
  - Withdraws the direct final and addresses comments received on the April 1, 2008 parallel proposal.
- We received comments objecting to the removal of two sets of cross-references we were proposing in our rule corrections.
  - We agreed with one of the comments, which objected to removing a set of cross-references prohibiting installing perc dry cleaning machines into co-residential buildings for existing area sources, because the removal could imply that existing area sources are exempt from these provisions. This was not our intent. As a result, this final rule retains these cross references.
  - We did not agree with comments objecting to the removal of another set of cross-references which currently require area sources to conduct monitoring intended only for major sources. This final rule makes the same corrections that the April 1, 2008 direct final would have made, by removing this set of cross-references.
- These final rule amendments will not change the intended rule requirements, nor the health and environmental benefits of the rule.

## **BACKGROUND**

- Perchloroethylene [CAS 127-18-4], also known as perc, PCE, tetrachloroethylene and tetrachloroethene, is a solvent used in dry cleaning. Approximately 28,000 U.S. dry cleaners use perc, which is the only air toxic emitted from the dry cleaning process.
- On July 27, 2006 EPA published amendments to the EPA's 1993 air toxics regulation for PCE dry cleaning facilities to reduce the health risks posed by PCE dry cleaners.
- EPA based the amendments on a recent review of dry-cleaning technology as well as recent analyses of the health risks that remain since implementation of the EPA's 1993 air toxics regulation for perc dry cleaners. Air toxics, also known as hazardous air pollutants, are known or suspected to cause cancer or other serious health or environmental effects.
- The compliance deadline for sources to meet the 2006 requirements will be July 28, 2008 because the two year compliance date of July 27, 2008 falls on a Sunday.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- To download the notice from EPA's web site on the Internet, go to:  
<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3fs.html>
- Today's final rule, withdrawal, revision and the comments received on the withdrawn direct final rule are also available either electronically at <http://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 in the EPA Headquarters Library, Room Number 3334 in the EPA 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 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 action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0155.
- For further information about these standards, contact Mr. Warren Johnson of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5124 or [johnson.warren@epa.gov](mailto:johnson.warren@epa.gov).