

Notice of Approval for an Alternative Means of Emission Limitation to Use Flares at ExxonMobil Corporation, Marathon Petroleum Company, LP and its subsidiary, Blanchard Refining, LLC, Chalmette Refining LLC and LACC, LLC – FACT SHEET

Action

- On September 11, 2018, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved Alternative Means of Emission Limitation (AMEL) requests from four companies to operate flares at several refineries in Texas and Louisiana and a chemical plant in Louisiana.
- This action is a notice of approval for ExxonMobil, Marathon Petroleum Company and its subsidiary, Blanchard Refining, Chalmette Refining LLC, and LACC, LLC. All of these facilities are refineries except for LACC, LLC, which is a chemical plant.
 - ExxonMobil's request is to operate a gas-assisted elevated flare at their Baytown Refinery.
 - Marathon's request is to operate two multi-point ground flares (MPGFs) at their Garyville refinery, and also one MPGF at their subsidiary, Blanchard Refining, at their Galveston Bay Refinery.
 - Chalmette Refining LLC's request is to operate an 8-stage candelabra style raised pressure-assisted flare.
 - LACC, LLC's request is to operate two MPGFs.
- This notice of approval specifies the flare operating conditions that must be met at each facility under the terms of the AMEL approvals.
- The Clean Air Act (CAA) provides the ability for regulated sources to seek approval of an AMEL, which must achieve emission reductions at least as stringent as the existing standards.
- Consistent with the requirements of the CAA, EPA provided an opportunity for the public to comment on the specific flare operating conditions that the four companies should follow to ensure that equivalent emissions reductions are achieved by these flares.

Background

- On April 25, 2018, EPA requested comments on the AMEL requests from four companies. The comment period for this action closed on June 11, 2018.
- The requesting facilities are subject to a number of national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP) and new source performance standards (NSPS), including the Ethylene Production NESHAP, Petroleum Refineries NESHAP, Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturing Industry NSPS for Distillation, Reactors, Storage Tanks and Equipment Leaks.
- These rules point to emission control requirements for flares in the General Provisions or in the Refinery Sector Rule. These requirements were developed for elevated flares with a single flare tip.
- The flares in question cannot meet the maximum permitted exit velocity requirements in the General Provisions or in the Refinery Sector Rule because of their design.

For More Information

- To read the final action, visit <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/alternative-means-emission-limitation>.

- Today's action and other background information are also available either electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, the 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, room number 3334 in the EPA William Jefferson Clinton 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 these actions can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2014-0738.
- For further information about this action, contact Ms. Angie Carey of the EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, at (919) 541-2187 or by email at Carey.Angela@epa.gov.