

12.0 INTRODUCTION

These regulations are intended to implement provisions of Private Chapter No. 37, which is the Private Act; passed on March 20, 1969, by the Tennessee General Assembly for Knox County, to formulate and enforce air pollution control and to adopt such rules and regulations prescribing standards and procedures for carrying out such program and declaring any violation of such rules and regulations to be a misdemeanor.

These regulations are intended to implement provisions of the Air Pollution Control Act, Private Chapter No. 37, and the Tennessee Air Pollution Control Regulations that were adopted by the Tennessee Air Pollution Control Board on January 25, 1972, and became effective on April 3, 1972.

These regulations are based upon the premise that the basic and foremost function of the air is to sustain life and that air in its purest state is best suited for this need. It is intended that these regulations assist in maintaining an equitable balance between benefits of clean air and the economic cost of achieving clean air. More specifically, it is intended that these regulations define ambient air quality standards to be achieved and maintained and to provide for an orderly and equitable management of air quality by limiting emissions of air contaminants.

The ambient air is the air surrounding us. Ambient air quality standards determine the level of air quality in which we will live, and should be used as tools in achieving cleaner air; not as a permit to degrade air quality. Polluted air can be a menace to all forms of life, and therefore, the disposal of wastes into the atmosphere must be controlled.

Ambient air quality standards are further intended to promote the most effective use of property. When the problems involved are esthetic in nature, an equitable economic balance must be achieved. When a health hazard is involved, there can be no compromise.

The requirements for limiting air borne contaminants must relate effects on men, animals, vegetation, and property to pollutant concentration at the point of contact. This, in turn, must be correlated with the source or sources. When multiple sources of a pollutant exist in a area, a limitation of the emission from each source must be exercised and the individual contribution to the total pollutant load in that area must be reduced to insure compliance with the ambient air quality standards. This is accomplished by the application of emission standards.

It is the purpose and intent of these regulations to establish controls on air contaminant emissions to the outdoor atmosphere so as to provide desirable levels of air quality in the ambient air.

An emission standard is a limit on the amount of air contaminant emitted from a source,

and is intended to bring the ambient air quality levels within acceptable limits.

These regulations may be revised from time to time, as additional information on air contaminants and sources of air pollution are developed and evaluated, with the advice and consent of a majority of the Board after a Public Hearing.

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