

SMALLBIZ@EPA

EPA's Asbestos and Small Business Ombuds Program

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE REGULATED SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

▶ **Policy and Regulation**

- ▶ Small Entity Compliance Guide for Oil and Natural Gas Sector
- ▶ Biden-Harris Administration Announces Final Rule to Cut Methane Emissions...
- ▶ New Source Performance Standards...
- ▶ Hazardous and Solid Waste...
- ▶ Procedures for Chemical Risk Evaluation Under the Toxic...
- ▶ Designation of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic...
- ▶ National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Primary...
- ▶ EPA Announces Final Rule to Improve Public Awareness of Drinking Water...
- ▶ New Source Performance Standards for the Synthetic Organic Manufacturing...
- ▶ Implementing Statutory Addition of Certain Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl...
- ▶ Di-isodecyl Phthalate (DIDP) and Di-isononyl Phthalate (DINP): Science...

▶ **Key Dates and Opportunities**

- ▶ EPA Announces \$9M in Grants Available for Tribes and Eligible...
- ▶ EPA Announces Over \$2.8M in Available Grants to Upgrade...

▶ **Spotlight**

- ▶ EPA holds In-Person Regional Roadshow to Help Communities...
- ▶ Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$300 Million in Brownfield...
- ▶ Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$25 Million to Help Provide Small...
- ▶ Air Toxics Screening Assessment



POLICY AND REGULATION

Small Entity Compliance Guide for Oil and Natural Gas Sector

EPA posted the [Oil and Natural Gas - Small Business Compliance Guide](#) to assist small businesses in understanding the requirements of the 2024 New Source Performance Standards for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry. The [final rule, for oil and natural gas operations](#) which will sharply reduce emissions of methane and other harmful air

pollution from oil and natural gas operations, became effective May 7, 2024. [Review EPA Small Entity Compliance Guides.](#)

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Final Rule to Cut Methane Emissions, Strengthen and Update Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting for the Oil and Gas Sector

On May 6, 2024, EPA issued a final rule to strengthen, expand, and update methane emissions reporting requirements for petroleum and natural gas systems under EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program, as required by President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act. The final revisions will ensure greater transparency and accountability for methane pollution from oil and natural gas facilities by improving the accuracy of annual emissions reporting from these operations. [Read the press release announcing the final rule to reduce emissions.](#)

New Source Performance Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New, Modified and Reconstructed Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units

EPA is finalizing multiple actions under section 111 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) addressing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from fossil fuel-fired electric generating units (EGUs). First, the EPA is finalizing the repeal of the Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) Rule. Second, the EPA is finalizing emission guidelines for GHG emissions from existing fossil fuel-fired steam generating EGUs, which include both coal-fired and oil/gas-fired steam generating EGUs. Third, the EPA is finalizing revisions to the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for GHG emissions from new and reconstructed fossil fuel-fired stationary combustion turbine EGUs. Fourth, the EPA is finalizing revisions to the NSPS for GHG emissions from fossil fuel-fired steam generating units that undertake a large modification, based upon the eight-year review required by the CAA. This final rule is effective on July 8, 2024. [Read the rule in the Federal Register finalizing these actions under the Clean Air Act.](#)

Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System: Disposal of Coal Combustion Residuals from Electric Utilities; Legacy CCR Surface Impoundments

EPA promulgated national minimum criteria for existing and new coal combustion residuals (CCR) landfills and existing and new CCR surface impoundments. On August 21, 2018, the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit vacated the exemption for inactive surface impoundments at inactive facilities (legacy CCR surface impoundments) and remanded the issue back to EPA to take further action consistent

with its opinion in *Utility Solid Waste Activities Group, et al. v. EPA*. This action responds to that order and establishes regulatory requirements for legacy CCR surface impoundments. EPA is also establishing requirements for CCR management units at active CCR facilities and at inactive CCR facilities with a legacy CCR surface impoundment. Finally, EPA is making several technical corrections to the existing regulations, such as correcting certain citations and harmonizing definitions. This final rule is effective on November 4, 2024. [Read the rule in the Federal Register promulgating national criteria for coal combustion residuals.](#)

Procedures for Chemical Risk Evaluation Under the Toxic Substances Control Act

EPA is finalizing amendments to the procedural framework rule for conducting risk evaluations under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The purpose of risk evaluations under TSCA is to determine whether a chemical substance presents an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment, without consideration of costs or non-risk factors, including unreasonable risk to potentially exposed or susceptible subpopulations identified as relevant to the risk evaluation by EPA, under the conditions of use. This final rule is effective on July 2, 2024. [Read the rule in the Federal Register about chemical risk evaluations under TSCA.](#)

Designation of Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) as CERCLA Hazardous Substances

Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund), EPA is designating two per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)—perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), including their salts and structural isomers—as hazardous substances. This final rule is effective July 8, 2024. [Read the rule in the Federal Register designating PFAS and PFO as hazardous.](#)

National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Primary Copper Smelting Residual Risk and Technology Review and Primary Copper Smelting Area Source Technology Review

This action finalizes the residual risk and technology review (RTR) conducted for the Primary Copper Smelting major source category regulated under national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP). This action also finalizes the technology review for the Primary Copper Smelting area source NESHAP. The final amendments for the major source NESHAP include particulate matter (PM) emission

standards as a surrogate for metal hazardous air pollutants (HAP) other than mercury (primarily lead and arsenic) for anode refining point sources, process fugitive emissions from roofline vents, Hoboken converter process fugitive capture systems where they combine with anode refining point sources, and new converters. This final rule is effective May 13, 2024, except for amendatory instruction 3, which is effective July 15, 2024. [Read the rule in the Federal Register finalizing emission standards for copper smelters.](#)

EPA Announces Final Rule to Improve Public Awareness of Drinking Water Quality

On May 15, 2024, EPA announced a final rule to make annual drinking water quality reports more understandable and accessible to the public. Starting in 2027, this final rule will ensure that these reports are easier to read and support access to translations in appropriate languages while enhancing information about lead in drinking water. EPA is also taking steps to streamline the delivery of reports by encouraging electronic methods. [Read the press release on EPA making drinking water reports easier to read.](#)

New Source Performance Standards for the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturing Industry and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturing Industry and Group I & II Polymers and Resins Industry

This action finalizes amendments to the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) that apply to the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturing Industry (SOCMI) and amendments to the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) that apply to the SOCMI (more commonly referred to as the Hazardous Organic NESHAP or HON) and Group I and II Polymers and Resins (P&R I and P&R II, respectively) Industries. This final rule is effective on July 15, 2024. The incorporation by reference (IBR) of certain publications listed in the rule is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of July 15, 2024. [Read the rule in the Federal Register finalizing amendments for several categories of air pollutants.](#)

Implementing Statutory Addition of Certain Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) to the Toxics Release Inventory Beginning with Reporting Year 2024

EPA is updating the list of chemicals subject to toxic chemical release reporting under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Pollution Prevention Act (PPA). Specifically, this action updates the regulations to identify seven per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that must be reported pursuant to the

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY2020 NDAA) enacted on December 20, 2019. As this action is being taken to conform the regulations to a Congressional legislative mandate, notice and comment rulemaking is unnecessary. This final rule is effective June 17, 2024. [Read the rule in the Federal Register updating the list of chemicals reported to the toxic release inventory.](#)

Di-isodecyl Phthalate (DIDP) and Di-isononyl Phthalate (DINP): Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC) Peer Review of Draft Documents; Notice of SACC Meeting, Availability, and Request for Comment

EPA is announcing the availability of and soliciting public comment on the draft manufacturer-requested risk evaluation for Di-isodecyl Phthalate (DIDP) and the draft physical chemical, fate, and hazard assessments for Di-isononyl Phthalate (DINP) prepared under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). EPA is also announcing that there will be two virtual public meetings of the SACC: On July 23, 2024, for the SACC to consider the scope and clarity of the draft charge questions for the peer review; and on July 30-August 2, 2024, for the SACC to consider the draft documents and public comments for peer review. Comments should be written on the scope and clarity of the charge questions on or before noon (12:00 p.m. EDT) on July 19, 2024. To request time to present oral comments, you must register by noon (12:00 p.m. EDT) on July 19, 2024. For those not making oral comments, registration will remain open through the end of the meeting on July 19, 2024, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (EDT). [Read the notice in the Federal Register requesting comment on certain chemicals under TSCA.](#)



KEY DATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

EPA Announces \$9M in Grants Available for Tribes and Eligible U.S. Territories to Replace Diesel Equipment and Reduce Harmful Emissions

On May 7, 2024, EPA announced the availability of grant funding available to Tribal governments and eligible territories to implement projects aimed at reducing diesel emissions from older diesel engines. Through the [2024 Diesel Emissions Reduction Act Tribal and Territory Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity](#), EPA anticipates awarding approximately \$9 million in total DERA funding to eligible applicants, subject to the availability of funds. Application packages must be submitted electronically to EPA through [Grants.gov](#) by Friday, December 6, at 11:59 p.m. EST to be considered for funding. [Read the press release on grants available to reduce diesel pollution.](#)

EPA Announces Over \$2.8M in Available Grants to Upgrade Stormwater and Sewer Infrastructure in Region 7

On May 14, 2024, EPA announced the availability of \$2,883,000 in funding through the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant program to help communities address stormwater and sewer infrastructure needs in Region 7. Safely managing stormwater is critical to preventing contaminants, including untreated sewage, from polluting waterways. [Read the press release on grants available to improve stormwater and sewer infrastructure.](#)



SPOTLIGHT

EPA Holds In-Person Regional Roadshow to Help Communities Access Historic Investing in America Funding for Local Climate and Environmental Justice Solutions

As part of EPA's [Community, Equity & Resiliency Initiative](#), a groundbreaking effort to help communities across the nation navigate EPA's Inflation Reduction Act investments and other new funding opportunities made possible by President Biden's Investing in America agenda, the EPA is hosting a national series of in-person, community-based Regional Roadshow events. As part of the initiative, EPA will host live virtual and in-person events, including panel discussions and fireside chats featuring environmental leaders and their peers, to help community-based organizations, their community partners, and potential grant applicants navigate funding opportunities. [Read the press release about EPA hosting a series of meetings to help communities with funding opportunities.](#)

Biden-Harris Administration Announces More Than \$300 Million in Brownfield Grants Through Investing in America Agenda to Rehabilitate and Revitalize Communities

On May 20, 2024, EPA announced over \$300 million in grant awards from President Biden's [Investing in America](#) agenda to help states, Tribal Nations, local governments, and non-profit organizations assess and clean up polluted brownfield sites across the country. These investments through EPA's Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) Grant Programs and Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grant Programs will help transform once-polluted, vacant, and abandoned properties into community assets,

while helping to create good jobs and spur economic revitalization in overburdened communities. [Read the press release on revitalizing communities.](#)

Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$25 Million to Help Provide Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Communities with Clean and Safe Drinking Water

On March 21, 2024, EPA announced \$25 million for states and territories to invest in clean and safe drinking water. This grant funding will specifically benefit underserved, small and disadvantaged communities by upgrading infrastructure to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act, reducing exposure to Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), removing sources of lead, and addressing additional local drinking water challenges. [Read the press release announcing funding for drinking water.](#)

Air Toxics Screening Assessment

The [Air Toxics Screening Assessment \(AirToxScreen\)](#) is EPA's screening tool to provide communities with information about health risks from air toxics. AirToxScreen is part of EPA's [new approach to air toxics](#) that provides updated data and risk analyses on an annual basis, helping state, local and Tribal air agencies, EPA, and the public more easily identify existing and emerging air toxics issues.



Website :
epa.gov/resources-small-businesses/asbo



Phone :
(800)368-5888



Email :
asbo@epa.gov