

OPEN MARKET TRADING RULE: Announcement of Activities
(last update 02/26/96)

1. In response to the recent government shutdown and continuing budget uncertainty, EPA has revised the target dates for publishing a final OMTR policy and model rule. The new schedule calls for submitting a completed final package to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in mid-June. OMB has up to 90 days to review and comment on the package. Administrator Browner will then sign the package and it will be published in the Federal Register. OMB took approximately 6 weeks to review the OMTR proposal package.

2. A draft of the public comment summary prepared for EPA by a contractor is available on the TTN bulletin board. The file (OMTCOMSU.ZIP) can be found at CAAA/Title I/Status of Rules. This draft has not been thoroughly reviewed by EPA, and readers should refer to the original comment if there is a question about the summarization. Original comments are housed in the EPA Headquarters building in Washington, D.C., Docket #A-95-21.

3. The EPA continues to consider requests for EPA staff to deliver, participate in, or provide presentation materials for seminars on Open Market Trading. If your State or local agency or industry group is interested in sponsoring a seminar, please contact Nancy Mayer at (919)541-5390 or Carey Fitzmaurice at (202)260-7433.

4. The EPA is supporting Open Market Trading by developing emission quantification protocol guidance. This guidance will contain the criteria by which the States and EPA will judge the acceptability of the VOC and NOx emission quantification protocols for both stationary and mobile sources. Approvable protocols must be used by sources for quantifying the tons of emissions either generated or used under the OMTR. The Protocol Guidance Development Teams (PGD Teams) for stationary and mobile sources have met separately with interested stakeholders, and summaries of those meetings, as well as the material distributed at those meetings will be available in the very near future in the OMTR public docket (#A-95-21). The PGD Teams may hold additional public and/or stakeholder meetings in the future pending the outcome of the EPA appropriation. Please contact John Bosch (protocols for stationary sources) at (919)541-5583, or Gary Dolce (protocols for mobile sources) at (313)668-4414 if you would like additional information on how your State, environmental or industry group can assist EPA in the protocol guidance development process.

Please contact Nancy Mayer at (919)541-5390 if you would like additional information.