

FACT SHEET**NOTICE OF SOURCE CATEGORY LISTINGS FOR THE SPECIFIC POLLUTANTS
(SECTION 112(c)(6))****TODAY S ACTION**

- ◆ The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is today issuing a list of additional industry groups (known as “source categories”) that emit seven specific hazardous air pollutants; namely, alkylated lead compounds, polycyclic organic matter (POM), hexachlorobenzene, mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls, 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzofurans (TCDF) and 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD). Hazardous air pollutants are also known as air toxics; these are pollutants which are known or suspected to cause cancer or other serious health effects such as birth defects or reproductive effects.
- ◆ The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 required EPA to identify the sources of 90 percent of the emissions of each of these seven specific pollutants. Further, the Act requires EPA to subject these sources to technology-based standards (under section 112(d)(2), known as maximum achievable control technology or MACT) or determine that their emissions do not violate established health thresholds (under section 112(d)(4)).
- ◆ A review of the available data indicates that a substantial majority of source categories emitting the seven pollutants have already been listed for regulation under another section of the Clean Air Act (section 112(d)(2)) or are subject to comparable regulation under other Clean Air Act authorities. Consequently, EPA is issuing a list of only two additional source categories in response to the requirement to ensure that 90 percent of the emissions of the seven pollutants has been targeted for regulation:
 - Open Burning of Scrap Tires
 - Gasoline Distribution Stage I Aviation, includes evaporative losses associated with the distribution and storage of aviation gas containing lead

HOW DID EPA EVALUATE THE SOURCES OF THE SEVEN POLLUTANTS?

- ◆ In order to determine the sources of the seven air toxics, EPA developed emission inventories of known sources of each pollutant. Emissions inventories consist of estimates of annual emissions to the air from all sources (with available data) such as power plants, chemical plants, automobiles, and forest fires. Using this inventory data, EPA identified the sources of the *total* emissions of these seven pollutants. However, EPA did not further evaluate certain types of sources that could not appropriately be addressed under the authorities of section 112 of the Clean Air Act. These excluded sources are wildfires and prescribed burning, mobile sources (cars, airplanes, etc.), residential combustion sources (fireplaces, woodstoves, oil and coal heaters), pesticide application, cigarette smoke, utility boilers, gasoline distribution stage II (evaporative

emissions from gas stations), and consumer products usage. The EPA evaluated the remaining categories of sources to determine whether they were currently regulated or scheduled for regulation under sections 112(d)(2) or (d)(4).

BACKGROUND

- ◆ Under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, EPA is required to regulate sources of 188 listed toxic air pollutants. (Note that this list originally contained 189 pollutants, but EPA has subsequently removed the chemical caprolactum from the list.) On July 16, 1992, EPA published a list of industry groups (known as source categories) that emit one or more of these air toxics. For listed categories of "major" sources (those that emit 10 tons/year or more of a listed pollutant or 25 tons/year or more of a combination of pollutants), the Clean Air Act requires EPA to develop standards that require the application of stringent air pollution reduction measures known as maximum achievable control technology (MACT).
- ◆ Section 112(c)(6) of the Clean Air Act requires EPA to identify the source categories that emit 90 percent of the aggregate emissions for each of the seven specific pollutants and add any source categories not previously identified to the list discussed above.
- ◆ These seven pollutants [alkylated lead compounds, polycyclic organic matter (POM), hexachlorobenzene, mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls, 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzofurans (TCDF) and 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD)] were among the pollutants of concern identified by the International Joint Commission of the United States and Canada, and the Great Lakes Commission, as well as EPA's Great Waters Program because of their persistence and tendency to bioaccumulate in the environment. These pollutants are also associated with adverse health effects such as nervous system damage and reproductive effects.
- ◆ The EPA is not planning to list some source categories that contribute to emissions of the seven pollutants because these sources are subject to another equivalent authority of the Clean Air Act. These sources include medical and municipal waste emissions which are regulated under EPA's solid waste combustion standards and combustion sources included in EPA's on-going effort to develop the Industrial Combustion Coordinated Rulemaking. The EPA believes additional regulation could lead to a redundant regulatory effort with little or no additional environmental benefit.

WHAT SOURCE CATEGORIES IS EPA LISTING?

- ◆ A review of the available data indicates that a substantial majority of source categories emitting the seven pollutants have already been listed for regulation under section

112(d)(2) or are subject to comparable regulation under other authorities. As a result, EPA is issuing a list of only two additional source categories to satisfy the requirements of section 112(c)(6):

- Open Burning of Scrap Tires
- Gasoline Distribution Stage I Aviation, includes evaporative losses associated with the distribution and storage of aviation gas containing lead

The EPA is required to promulgate regulations developed for any of these additional source categories by November 15, 2000 (under section 112(d)(2) authority).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ◆ Interested parties can download the Federal Register notice and the emissions inventory documentation from EPA's web site on the Internet under "recent actions" at the following address: (<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg>). The notice and background documentation is also available through EPA's Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center (Docket Number A-97-05) by calling (202) 260-7548 or -7549 or FAX (202) 260-4000 (a reasonable fee may be charged for copying). For technical questions about this action, contact Laurel Driver (919) 541-2859.
- ◆ The EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's home page on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program, as well as many other air pollution programs and issues. The Office of Air and Radiation's home page address is: (<http://www.epa.gov/oar/>).