

not institute a second comment period. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time. Please note that if EPA receives adverse comment on an amendment, paragraph, or section of this rule and if that provision may be severed from the remainder of the rule, EPA may adopt as final those provisions of the rule that are not the subject of an adverse comment.

For additional information, see the direct final rule which is located in the Rules section of this **Federal Register**.

Dated: January 12, 2005.

**Robert W. Varney,**

*Regional Administrator, EPA New England.*  
[FR Doc. 05-2061 Filed 2-4-05; 8:45 am]

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### 40 CFR Part 63

[OAR-2003-0194; FRL-7869-6]

RIN 2060-AL89

### National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Leather Finishing Operations

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; amendments.

**SUMMARY:** On February 27, 2002, the EPA issued national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP) for leather finishing operations, which were issued under section 112 of the Clean Air Act (CAA). This action would amend the standards to clarify the frequency for categorizing leather product process types, modify the definition of "specialty leather," add a definition for "vacuum mulling," and add an alternative procedure for determining the actual monthly solvent loss from an affected source.

In the Rules and Regulations section of this **Federal Register**, we are taking direct final action on the proposed amendments because we view the amendments as noncontroversial and anticipate no adverse comments. We have explained our reasons for the amendments in the direct final rule. If we receive no significant adverse comments, we will take no further action on the proposed amendments. If we receive significant adverse comments, we will withdraw only those provisions on which we received significant adverse comments. We will publish a timely withdrawal in the **Federal Register** indicating which provisions will become effective and

which provisions are being withdrawn. If part or all of the direct final rule in the Rules and Regulations section of today's **Federal Register** is withdrawn, all comments pertaining to those provisions will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on the proposed amendments. We will not institute a second comment period on the subsequent final action. Any parties interested in commenting must do so at this time.

**DATES:** *Comments.* Written comments must be received on or before February 17, 2005 unless a hearing is requested by February 14, 2005. If a hearing is requested, written comments must be received on or before February 22, 2005.

*Public Hearing.* If anyone contacts the EPA requesting to speak at a public hearing, a public hearing will be held on February 17, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. OAR-2003-0194, by one of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

- Agency Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>. EDOCKET, EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, is EPA's preferred method for receiving comments. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

- E-mail: [air-and-r-docket@epa.gov](mailto:air-and-r-docket@epa.gov).
- Fax: (202) 566-1741.

- Mail: EPA Docket Center, EPA, Mailcode: 6102T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460. Please include a duplicate copy, if possible.

- Hand Delivery: Air and Radiation Docket, EPA, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room B-108, Washington, DC 20460. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

We request that a separate copy also be sent to the contact person listed below (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

*Instructions:* Direct your comments to Docket ID No. OAR-2003-0194. EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through EDOCKET,

regulations.gov, or e-mail. The EPA EDOCKET and the federal regulations.gov Web sites are "anonymous access" systems, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to EPA without going through EDOCKET or regulations.gov, your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses. For additional information about EPA's public docket visit EDOCKET on-line or see the **Federal Register** of May 31, 2002 (67 FR 38102).

*Docket:* All documents in the docket are listed in the EDOCKET index at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, *i.e.*, CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the Internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in EDOCKET or in hard copy at the Air and Radiation Docket, EPA/DC, EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the Air Docket is (202) 566-1742.

*Public Hearing.* If a public hearing is held, it will be held at 10 a.m. at the EPA's Environmental Research Center Auditorium, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina or at an alternate site nearby.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. William Schrock, Organic Chemicals Group, Emission Standards Division (C504-04), Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711; telephone number (919) 541-5032; facsimile number (919) 541-3470;

electronic mail (email) address:  
schrock.bill@epa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** *Regulated Entities.* Categories and entities

potentially regulated by this action include:

Category	NAICS* code	Examples of regulated entities
Industry .....	3161 31611 316110	Leather finishing operations. Leather finishing operations. Leather finishing operations.
Federal government .....	.....	Not affected
State/local/tribal government .....	.....	Not affected.

\* North American Industrial Classification System.

This table is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be regulated by this action. To determine whether your facility is regulated by this action, you should carefully examine the applicability criteria in § 63.5285 of the national emission standards. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed in the preceding **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

*What should I consider as I prepare my comments for EPA? Submitting CBI.* Do not submit this information to EPA through EDOCKET, regulations.gov or e-mail. Clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. For CBI information in a disk or CD ROM that you mail to EPA, mark the outside of the disk or CD ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD ROM the specific information that is claimed as CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

*Tips for Preparing Your Comments.* When submitting comments, remember to:

- Identify the rulemaking by docket number and other identifying information (subject heading, **Federal Register** date and page number).
- Follow directions—The agency may ask you to respond to specific questions or organize comments by referencing a Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part or section number.
- Explain why you agree or disagree; suggest alternatives and substitute language for your requested changes.
- Describe any assumptions and provide any technical information and/or data that you used.
- If you estimate potential costs or burdens, explain how you arrived at your estimate in sufficient detail to allow for it to be reproduced.

- Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns, and suggest alternatives.

- Explain your views as clearly as possible, avoiding the use of profanity or personal threats.
- Make sure to submit your comments by the comment period deadline identified.

*Public Hearing.* Persons interested in presenting oral testimony or inquiring as to whether a hearing is to be held should contact Mr. William Schrock, Organic Chemicals Group, Emission Standards Division (Mail Code C504-04), U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711, telephone number (919) 541-5032, electronic mail address *schrock.bill@epa.gov.*, at least 2 days in advance of the potential date of the public hearing. Persons interested in attending the public hearing must also call Mr. William Schrock to verify the time, date, and location of the hearing. The public hearing will provide interested parties the opportunity to present data, views, or arguments concerning these proposed emission standards.

*Worldwide Web (WWW).* In addition to being available in the docket, an electronic copy of today's proposal will also be available through the WWW. Following the Administrator's signature, a copy of this action will be posted on EPA's Technology Transfer Network (TTN) policy and guidance page for newly proposed or promulgated rules <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg>. The TTN at EPA's Web site provides information and technology exchange in various areas of air pollution control. If more information regarding the TTN is needed, call the TTN HELP line at (919) 541-5384.

*Direct Final Rule.* A direct final rule identical to the proposal is published in the Rules and Regulations section of today's **Federal Register**. If we receive any adverse comment pertaining to the amendments in the proposal, we will publish a timely notice in the **Federal Register** informing the public that the amendments are being withdrawn due to adverse comment. We will address all public comments concerning the

withdrawn amendments in a subsequent final rule. If no relevant adverse comments are received, no further action will be taken on the proposal, and the direct final rule will become effective as provided in that action.

The regulatory text for the proposal is identical to that for the direct final rule published in the Rules and Regulations section of today's **Federal Register**. For further supplementary information, the detailed rationale for the proposal and the regulatory revisions, see the direct final rule published in a separate part of this **Federal Register**.

**Statutory and Executive Order Reviews**

For a complete discussion of all of the administrative requirements applicable to this action, see the direct final rule in the Rules and Regulations section of today's **Federal Register**.

*Regulatory Flexibility Act*

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (SBREFA), 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*, generally requires an agency to prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis of any rule subject to notice and comment rulemaking requirements under the Administrative Procedure Act or any other statute unless the Agency certifies that the rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. Small entities include small businesses, small organizations, and small governmental jurisdictions.

For purposes of assessing the impact of today's technical amendments on small entities, small entities are defined as: (1) A small business that has fewer than 750 employees; (2) a small governmental jurisdiction that is a government of a city, county, town, school district or special district with a population of less than 50,000; and (3) a small organization that is any not-for-profit enterprise which is independently owned and operated and is not dominant in its field.

After considering the economic impacts of today's proposed rule amendments on small entities, I certify

that this action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The rule amendments will not impose any new requirements on small entities. We continue to be interested in the potential impacts of the proposed rule on small entities and welcome comments on issues related to such impacts.

#### List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 63

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Hazardous substances, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: February 1, 2005.

**Stephen L. Johnson,**

*Acting Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 05-2304 Filed 2-4-05; 8:45 am]

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 54

[WC Docket No. 02-60; FCC 04-289]

#### Rural Health Care Support Mechanism

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** In this document, we modify our rules to improve the effectiveness of the rural health care universal service support mechanism. In the *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM)*, we seek comment on whether we should increase the percentage discount that rural health care providers receive for Internet access and whether infrastructure development should be funded. Additionally, we seek comment on whether to modify our rules specifically to allow mobile rural health care providers to use services other than satellite.

**DATES:** Comments are due on or before April 8, 2005. Reply comments are due on or before May 9, 2005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Regina Brown at (202) 418-0792 or Dana Bradford at (202) 418-1932, Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, TTY (202) 418-0484.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a summary of the Commission's *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, in WC Docket No. 02-60 released on December 17, 2004. A companion *Report and Order* and *Order on Reconsideration* was also released on December 17, 2004. The full text of this document is available for public inspection during

regular business hours in the FCC Reference Center, Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554.

### I. Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

#### A. Internet Access

1. In the 2003 *Report and Order*, 68 FR 74492, December 24, 2003, the Commission concluded that support equal to 25 percent of the monthly cost for any form of Internet access reasonably related to the health care needs of the facility should be provided to rural health care providers. The Commission specifically noted that it was acting conservatively by choosing a 25 percent flat discount initially. Because requests for Internet access discounts have remained at low levels, to seek comment on whether a 25 percent flat discount off the cost of monthly Internet access for eligible rural health care providers is sufficient. We continue to believe that a flat discount will lead to greater predictability and fairness among health care providers. We encourage commenters to be specific as to the level of support that we should offer, and to provide us with the facts that they rely upon in advocating a level of support.

2. Further, to accurately gauge the demand for support under the rural health care mechanism, we seek comment on the effect that an increase in Internet access support would have on the demand for support from rural health care providers. We therefore seek comment from rural health care providers on the demand for Internet access, and from service providers on the cost of such services. We seek comment on whether demand for Internet access is likely to reach the \$400 million cap on the amount of support to be provided by the rural health care mechanism, and how increased demand would affect the operation of the rural health care mechanism.

3. We also seek comment on the positive or negative effects that a decision to increase Internet access support will have on the rural health care support mechanism, from the perspective of the health care providers, the service providers, and USAC. We encourage parties to discuss any issues relevant to whether we should provide increased support for Internet access, what level of support to provide, what restrictions, if any, we should place on such support, what administrative problems and concerns may arise if we provide increased support, and the impact of an increase in support on the

mechanism's ability to support other services. Specifically, we seek comment on whether an increase of support would have positive or negative effects on facilities-based broadband deployment in rural areas.

#### B. Support for Other Telecommunications Services for Mobile Rural Health Care Providers

4. In the companion *Report and Order*, we revise our policy to allow mobile rural health care clinics to receive discounts for satellite services calculated by comparing the actual cost of the satellite service to the rate for an urban wireline service with a similar bandwidth. We recognize that not only satellite services but other telecommunications platforms, such as terrestrial wireless, may provide the most cost-effective means of providing the telemedicine link. Because we want to encourage mobile health care providers to consider all available telecommunications services when determining which service best suits the needs of the telemedicine project, we seek comment on whether to modify our rules specifically to allow mobile rural health care providers to use services other than satellite. We seek comment on what other telecommunications services might be available to support mobile rural telemedicine projects. We ask commenters to address how such service may be a more cost-effective method of providing service than a satellite connection. We also request whether services other than satellite services would require different rules, different eligibility criteria or any other changes from the rules we establish today.

#### C. Support for Infrastructure Development

5. In the 1997 *Universal Service Order*, 62 FR 32862, June 17, 1997, the Commission requested comment on whether and how to support infrastructure development or "network buildout" needed to enhance public and not-for-profit health care providers' access to advanced telecommunications and information services. At the time, the Commission noted that the record contained anecdotal evidence regarding the need for support for infrastructure development. We now seek to refresh the record on this issue.

6. In the 1997 *Universal Service Order*, the Commission agreed with MCI that infrastructure development is not a "telecommunications service" within the scope of section 254(h)(1)(A) and concluded that the Commission has the discretionary authority to establish rules to implement a program of universal