Update: Clean Air Mercury Rule (CAMR)







Bill Wehrum Counsel to the Assistant Administrator U.S. EPA Office of Air and Radiation

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Mercury Cycling Pathways



Mercury Emissions Contribute to Human Exposure to Mercury



Emissions

Lake Ocean

Mercury transforms into methylmercury in soils and water, then can bioaccumulate in fish Fishing

- commercial
- recreational
- subsistence

Humans and wildlife affected primarily by eating contaminated fish



Impacts

- Best documented impacts on the developing fetus: impaired motor and cognitive skills
- also: cardiovascular, immune, and reproductive system impacts



Mercury Global Emissions -Anthropogenic Emissions by Continent



(Adapted from EPRI, 2004)

Power Generation Is a Major Source of Emissions



* Other stationary combustion includes residential and commercial sources.

EPA Proposes to Reduce Utility Emissions through Current CAA Authorities...

- Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) to address the contribution of transported SO₂/NO_x emissions to ozone (smog) and fine particle (PM_{2.5}) nonattainment problems in the Eastern U.S.
- Clean Air Mercury Rule (CAMR) to address emissions of mercury

Mercury Control Technology

- Mercury removal enhanced when PM controls are used with NO_x and SO_2 controls.
- New control technologies promising, but not ready for full-scale commercial deployment
 - ACI
 - Sorbent Injection

Proposed Alternatives to Reduce Mercury Emissions from the Power Sector



- Proposed section 112 MACT requirements for coal-fired generation units
 - Reduces mercury emissions from 48 to approximately 34 tons by 2008 with controls based on coal type.
- Proposed cap-and-trade approach to address mercury from coal-fired generation units under section 111
 - Revises December 2000 determination to use section 112 MACT requirements.
 - Commits to phased-in caps: first cap at cobenefits level in 2010; second cap at 15 tons in 2018.
 - Caps annual mercury emissions at 15 tons in 2018 and after.
- Also, discusses cap-and-trade approach under section 112(n)(1)(A)

Proposed Section 112 MACT

- Existing sources
 - Six subcategories
 - Limits are based on the average of the top 12% of sources in each subcategory
 - Accounted for variability
 - Emission standards applicable to each source
 - No trading
- New sources
 - Six subcategories
 - Limits are based on the best performing similar source in each subcategory
 - Accounted for variability
 - Emission standards applicable to each source
 - No trading

Proposed Existing Source MACT Limits

Subcategory	Hg (Ib/TBtu) ¹	Hg (10 ⁻⁶ lb/MWh) ¹
Bituminous-fired	2.0	21
Subbituminous-fired	5.8	61
Lignite-fired	9.2	98
IGCC	19.0	200
Coal refuse-fired	0.38	4.1

¹ – Based on a 12-month rolling average

Subcategory	Ni (Ib/TBtu)²	Ni (Ib/MWh)²
Oil-fired	210	0.002

² - Based on a not-to-exceed annual limit

NOTE: Output-based standards are referenced to a baseline efficiency (32% for existing units).

Proposed New Source MACT Limits

Subcategory	Hg (10 ⁻⁶ Ib/MWh) ¹
Bituminous-fired	6.0
Subbituminous-fired	20
Lignite-fired	62
IGCC	20 ³
Coal refuse-fired	1.1

¹ – Based on a 12-month rolling average

³ – Based on a 90% reduction for beyond-the-floor control

Subcategory	Ni (Ib/MWh)²
Oil-Fired	0.0008

² - Based on a not-to-exceed annual limit

NOTE: Output-based standards are referenced to a baseline efficiency (35% for new units).

Proposed Section 112 Monitoring and Compliance Requirements

- Mercury testing and monitoring requirements
 - Three options for mercury monitoring
 - Continuous Emission Monitors (CEM)
 - Carbon Absorption Tube
 - Manual Stack Test
- Allows for emissions averaging across facility for mercury

Proposed Section 111 Alternative

- January 2004 proposal:
 - New sources
 - Federal rule 111(b)
 - Includes emission limits for mercury (coal-fired) and nickel (oil-fired)
 - Limits same as new-source MACT
 - Existing sources
 - Federal Guidelines for State Implementation Plans 111(d)
 - Sets mercury emission rates for coal-fired utility units under a capand-trade program administered by States
 - » Phase 1: 2010 (solicit comment on co-benefits-based cap level)
 - » Phase 2: 2018 Capped at 15 tons
 - Sets a limit for nickel emissions from oil-fired units

Proposed Section 111 Alternative – cont.

- March 2004 supplemental proposal:
 - Establishes model trading program
 - Provides model mercury trading rule
 - Allocates State budget allocations
 - State requirements
 - Each State must submit a plan that demonstrates it will meet its assigned statewide mercury emissions budget
 - States may join the trading program by adopting or referencing the model trading rule in State regulations; or, adopting regulations that mirror the necessary components of the model trading rule
 - States can choose not to join the Federal trading program and meet their budget through intra-state trading or no trading
 - States can also choose to implement more stringent mercury emissions requirements
 - Monitoring requirements

Proposed Section 111 Hg Monitoring Requirements

- Requires continuous monitoring of mercury sufficient to support the trading program
- A comprehensive QA/QC program ensures the adequacy and completeness of emissions data
- Regulated sources would have the flexibility of using alternative monitoring approaches as long as such approaches meet the performance requirements in the rule

Benefits of Section 111 Alternative

- Would reduce nationwide mercury emissions by 33 tons (69 percent) from today's levels when fully implemented after 2018.
- Potential for earlier and greater reductions than proposed MACT alternative.
- Complements the CAIR, creating an integrated multipollutant approach to controlling emissions from power plants.

Proposed Section 112 Trading Alternative

- EPA has taken comment on a proposal to promulgate, under section 112(n)(1)(A), a cap-and-trade program for mercury from coal-fired utility units
 - Trading program would be Federally implemented with the EPA, instead of States, serving as the permitting authority

Perspective on Approach

- Administration prefers Clear Skies
 - Provides substantial health and environmental benefits with certainty, less complexity, and reasonable economic impacts.
- However, the Clean Air Interstate and Mercury Rules will:
 - Help cities and States in the East meet new, more stringent national ambient air quality standards for ozone and fine particles.
 - Provide substantial health, welfare, and environmental benefits.
 - Will maintain both fuel diversity and low electricity prices.
 - Provide benefits at a very reasonable cost.
 - Address major power sector emissions in an integrated manner.



Where we are now

- Comment period ended on 6-29
- As you all know we received many comments
 111 vs. 112
 - Allocation levels
 - Proposal "disadvantaging" bituminous coal
 - New source limits too strict
- We'll review comments
- Under settlement agreement EPA must promulgate rule by 03/15/'05
 - EPA working to meet this deadline



