

## FACT SHEET

### AMBIENT AIR MONITORING REGULATIONS: CORRECTIONS AND OTHER AMENDMENTS

#### ACTION

- On April 30, 2007, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) amended its regulations to correct and clarify parts of a recent final rule affecting ambient air monitoring regulations for criteria pollutants.
- EPA issued a final rule to amend ambient air monitoring regulations in October 2006. This rule implemented changes necessary to support updates to the Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards and also to implement portions of the National Ambient Air Monitoring Strategy.
- EPA is taking direct final action to resolve several instances of inconsistent wording in the final rule preamble and regulatory text, several regulatory text passages that contained some imprecise language or where text was inadvertently omitted, and several publication errors in tables and equations.
- This rulemaking also will allow EPA Regional Administrators to approve departures from the minimum number of PM<sub>10</sub> monitors otherwise specified in the rule, consistent with the identical authority for minimum numbers of ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors that was established in the October 2006 final rule.
- EPA is taking this action as a direct final rule accompanied by a parallel proposal. The direct final rule amendments will not create additional regulatory requirements compared to those that were promulgated in the October 2006 final rule. By eliminating ambiguities, this action will assist companies that provide monitoring instruments, and state, local, and tribal agencies that conduct ambient air monitoring. There are no costs associated with this rule.
- EPA will accept comment on the parallel proposal for 30 days after these rules are published in the Federal Register. See below for commenting instructions.
- These direct final amendments will be effective 90 days after publication in the Federal Register. If EPA receives adverse comment on the parallel proposal, we will withdraw all or part of the direct final amendments.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

- To download the direct final rule amendments and proposal from EPA's website, go to "Particulate Matter - Regulatory Actions" at the following address:  
<http://www.epa.gov/air/particles/actions.html>
- Today's action and other background information are also available either electronically through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), the Federal government's docket management system, or in hard copy at EPA's Docket Center (6102T), EPA West, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room B-102, Washington, DC (Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2004-0018). 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 EPA Docket Center is (202) 566-1742.
- For further information about the direct final rule amendments and proposal, contact Mr. Lewis Weinstock of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Air Quality Analysis Division, Ambient Air Monitoring Group at (919) 541-3661 or by e-mail at [weinstock.lewis@epa.gov](mailto:weinstock.lewis@epa.gov).
- The EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) Technology Transfer Network – Ambient Monitoring Technical Information Center home page on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the ambient air monitoring program. The TTN – AMTIC page address is: <http://epa.gov/ttn/amtic/>.

## HOW TO COMMENT

EPA will accept comments on the parallel proposal for 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. All comments should be identified by Docket ID No. OAR-2004-0018 and submitted by one of the following methods:

- Federal e-rulemaking portal; [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov);
- E-mail ([a-and-r-docket@epa.gov](mailto:a-and-r-docket@epa.gov));
- Facsimile (202) 566-1741;
- Mail (Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mailcode: 6102T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460); or
- Hand delivery (Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC).