

## **FACT SHEET**

### **PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE COAL PREPARATION PLANTS NEW SOURCE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (NSPS)**

#### **ACTION**

- On April 16, 2008, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed revisions to emissions control requirements for new coal preparation plants. These proposed standards of performance would apply to new coal preparation plants that process more than 200 tons of coal per day. Coal preparation plants are used at facilities such as coal mines, power plants, cement plants, coke manufacturing facilities, and industrial facilities.
- The proposed revisions to these standards, known as new source performance standards (NSPS), would apply to new, modified, and reconstructed coal preparation plants and reflect improvements in emission control technologies for particles that have been developed since the original NSPS for these sources were issued in 1976.
- The proposed revisions will reduce emissions of particulate matter (PM).
- EPA expects that most owners or operators of affected coal preparation plants will need to install controls to comply with the revised PM limits of this proposal. However, these control technologies are already needed to meet the PM reduction requirements of other air quality management programs such as new source review.
- EPA estimates that 22 new coal preparation plants will be built over the next 5 years and would be subject to these proposed revisions.
- While this proposed rule would not result in additional reductions of emissions of criteria pollutants, it would protect human health and the environment by assuring pollutant emissions from coal preparation plants are minimized.
- EPA estimates total nationwide annual costs of \$1 million when the revised standards are fully implemented. Monitoring, reporting and recordkeeping requirements of the proposed rule would account for these costs.

#### **BACKGROUND**

- The Clean Air Act (CAA) requires EPA to issue NSPS for coal preparation plants that consider emission control technologies available and costs of control. Further, the CAA requires EPA to review the standards at least every 8 years, and revise them as appropriate.
- Since EPA originally issued the NSPS for coal preparation plants in 1976, technological

advances have led to improvements in:

- fabric filters and chemical dust suppressants used to control PM emissions, and
  - emissions test methods.
- This proposed rule reflects the performance and emissions of today's new coal preparation plants.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

- To download the proposed rule from EPA's web site, go to "Recent Actions" at the following address: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg>.
- Today's proposed rule and other background information are also available either electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, or in hardcopy at the EPA Docket Center's Public Reading Room.
  - The Public Reading Room is located at EPA Headquarters, room number 3334 in the EPA West Building, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern standard time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.
  - Visitors are required to show photographic identification, pass through a metal detector and sign the EPA visitor log. All visitor materials will be processed through an X-ray machine as well. Visitors will be provided a badge that must be visible at all times.
  - Materials for this proposed action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2008-0260.
- HOW TO COMMENT: Comments should be identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2008-0260 and submitted by one of the following methods:
  - Federal eRulemaking Portal (<http://www.regulations.gov>)
  - E-mail ([a-and-r-docket@epa.gov](mailto:a-and-r-docket@epa.gov))
  - Mail (EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mailcode 6102T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460), or
  - Hand delivery (EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC).
- For further information about the final rule, contact Mr. Christian Fellner at EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at 919-541-4003.
- For other combustion-related regulations, visit EPA's Combustion Related Rules page at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/combust/list.html>.

