

FACT SHEET

NATIONAL VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUND (VOC) EMISSION STANDARDS for AEROSOL COATINGS – AMENDMENTS TO EXTEND COMPLIANCE DATE

ACTION

- On October 31, 2008 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) amended its rule setting national volatile organic compound (VOC) emission standards for aerosol coatings (i.e., aerosol spray paints).
- The amendments extend the compliance date from January 1, 2009, to July 1, 2009, and make initial notification reports due on the compliance date, as opposed to 90 days in advance of the compliance date, as currently required.
- This compliance extension will allow EPA time to complete the second action to amend the rule to add compounds to the rule table. It will also provide regulated entities sufficient time to develop and submit initial notification reports with the proper reactivity factors based on the revised table.
- EPA is publishing these changes as a direct final rule because the changes are noncontroversial and no adverse comments are anticipated. If adverse comments are received, EPA will address the comments in a subsequent final rule based on a parallel proposal that is being issued in conjunction with the direct final rule amendments.

BACKGROUND

- On March, 2008 EPA set national VOC emission standards for aerosol spray paints, also known as aerosol coatings. This rule helps reduce ozone formation by encouraging reductions of higher reactivity VOCs, rather than treating all VOCs in a product alike.
- The Aerosol Coatings Reactivity Rule includes a table of compounds, and their corresponding reactivity factors, that are used to manufacture aerosol coatings. At promulgation, we anticipated that there may be some compounds that aerosol coating manufacturers are currently using, or intend to use, that were not included in the table. Therefore, we included a provision in the rule that allowed regulated entities to petition EPA to add compounds to the table. EPA received such petitions, but has not been able to finalize the additions to the list with sufficient time to allow manufacturers to certify compliance based on the deadlines in the rule.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- For further information, contact Kaye Whitfield of the EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards by phone (919) 541-2509 or by e-mail at whitfield.kaye@epa.gov.
- Today's action and background information are available either electronically through www.regulations.gov, the Federal government's docket management system, or in hardcopy at EPA's Docket Center (6102T), EPA West, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460 (Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2006-0971). 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.