Environmental Protection Agency

§ 63.760

Subpart HH—National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants From Oil and Natural Gas Production Facilities

SOURCE: 64 FR 32628, June 17, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 63.760 Applicability and designation of affected source.

(a) This subpart applies to the owners and operators of the emission points, specified in paragraph (b) of this section that are located at oil and natural gas production facilities that meet the specified criteria in paragraphs (a)(1) and either (a)(2) or (a)(3) of this section.

1) Facilities that are major or area sources of hazardous air pollutants (HAP) as defined in § 63.761. Emissions for major source determination purposes can be estimated using the maximum natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput, as appropriate, calculated in paragraphs (a)(1)(i) through (iii) of this section. An alternative to calculating the maximum natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput, the owner or operator of a new or existing source may use the facility’s design maximum natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput to estimate the maximum potential emissions. Other means to determine the facility’s major source status are allowed, provided the information is documented and recorded to the Administrator’s
satisfaction. A facility that is determined to be an area source, but subsequently increases its emissions or its potential to emit above the major source levels (without first obtaining and complying with other limitations that keep its potential to emit HAP below major source levels), and becomes a major source, must comply thereafter with all provisions of this subpart applicable to a major source starting on the applicable compliance date specified in paragraph (f) of this section. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to preclude a source from limiting its potential to emit through other appropriate mechanisms that may be available through the permitting authority.

(i) If the owner or operator documents, to the Administrator’s satisfaction, a decline in annual natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput, as appropriate, each year for the 5 years prior to June 17, 1999, the owner or operator shall calculate the maximum natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput used to determine potential emissions according to the requirements specified in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(A) of this section. In all other circumstances, the owner or operator shall calculate the maximum throughput used to determine whether a facility is a major source in accordance with the requirements specified in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this section.

(A) The maximum natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput is the average of the annual natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput for the 3 years prior to June 17, 1999, multiplied by a factor of 1.2.

(B) The maximum natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput is the highest annual natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput over the 5 years prior to June 17, 1999, multiplied by a factor of 1.2.

(ii) The owner or operator shall maintain records of the annual facility natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput each year and upon request submit such records to the Administrator. If the facility annual natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput increases above the maximum natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput calculated in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(A) or (a)(1)(i)(B) of this section, the maximum natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput must be recalculated using the higher throughput multiplied by a factor of 1.2.

(iii) The owner or operator shall determine the maximum values for other parameters used to calculate emissions as the maximum for the period over which the maximum natural gas or hydrocarbon liquid throughput is determined in accordance with paragraph (a)(1)(i)(A) or (B) of this section. Parameters shall be based on either highest measured values or annual average.

(2) Facilities that process, upgrade, or store hydrocarbon liquids prior to the point of custody transfer.

(3) Facilities that process, upgrade, or store natural gas prior to the point at which natural gas enters the natural gas transmission and storage source category or is delivered to a final end user. For the purposes of this subpart, natural gas enters the natural gas transmission and storage source category after the natural gas processing plant, when present. If no natural gas processing plant is present, natural gas enters the natural gas transmission and storage source category after the point of custody transfer.

(b) The affected sources for major sources are listed in paragraph (b)(1) of this section and for area sources in paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(1) For major sources, the affected source shall comprise each emission point located at a facility that meets the criteria specified in paragraph (a) of this section and listed in paragraphs (b)(1)(i) through (b)(1)(iv) of this section.

(i) Each glycol dehydration unit;

(ii) Each storage vessel with the potential for flash emissions;

(iii) The group of all ancillary equipment, except compressors, intended to operate in volatile hazardous air pollutant service (as defined in §63.761), which are located at natural gas processing plants; and

(iv) Compressors intended to operate in volatile hazardous air pollutant service (as defined in §63.761), which are located at natural gas processing plants.

(2) For area sources, the affected source includes each triethylene glycol
(TEG) dehydration unit located at a facility that meets the criteria specified in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) [Reserved]

(d) The owner and operator of a facility that does not contain an affected source as specified in paragraph (b) of this section are not subject to the requirements of this subpart.

(e) Exemptions. The facilities listed in paragraphs (e)(1) and (e)(2) of this section are exempt from the requirements of this subpart. Records shall be maintained as required in §63.10(b)(3).

1. A facility that exclusively processes, stores, or transfers black oil (as defined in §63.761) is not subject to the requirements of this subpart. For the purposes of this subpart, a black oil facility that uses natural gas for fuel or generates gas from black oil shall qualify for this exemption.

2. A major source facility, prior to the point of custody transfer, with a facility-wide actual annual average natural gas throughput less than 18,4 thousand standard cubic meters per day and a facility-wide actual annual average hydrocarbon liquid throughput less than 39,700 liters per day.

(f) The owner or operator of an affected major source shall achieve compliance with the provisions of this subpart by the dates specified in paragraphs (f)(1) and (f)(2) of this section. The owner or operator of an affected area source shall achieve compliance with the provisions of this subpart by the dates specified in paragraphs (f)(3) through (f)(6) of this section.

1. The owner or operator of an affected major source, the construction or reconstruction of which commenced before February 6, 1998, shall achieve compliance with the applicable provisions of this subpart no later than June 17, 2002, except as provided for in §63.6(i). The owner or operator of an area source, the construction or reconstruction of which commenced before February 6, 1998, that increases its emissions of (or its potential to emit) HAP such that the source becomes a major source that is subject to this subpart shall comply with this subpart 3 years after becoming a major source.

2. The owner or operator of an affected major source, the construction or reconstruction of which commences on or after February 6, 1998, shall achieve compliance with the applicable provisions of this subpart immediately upon initial startup or June 17, 1999, whichever date is later. Area sources, the construction or reconstruction of which commences on or after February 6, 1998, that become major sources shall comply with the provisions of this standard immediately upon becoming a major source.

3. The owner or operator of an affected area source, located in an Urban-1 county, as defined in §63.761, the construction or reconstruction of which commences before February 6, 1998, shall achieve compliance with the provisions of this subpart no later than the dates specified in paragraphs (f)(3)(i) or (ii) of this section, except as provided for in §63.6(i).

(i) If the affected area source is located within any UA plus offset and UC boundary, as defined in §63.761, the compliance date is January 4, 2010.

(ii) If the affected area source is not located within any UA plus offset and UC boundary, as defined in §63.761, the compliance date is January 5, 2009.

4. The owner or operator of an affected area source, located in an Urban-1 county, as defined in §63.761, the construction or reconstruction of which commences on or after February 6, 1998, shall achieve compliance with the provisions of this subpart immediately upon initial startup or January 3, 2007, whichever date is later.

5. The owner or operator of an affected area source that is not located in an Urban-1 county, as defined in §63.761, the construction or reconstruction of which commences before July 8, 2005, shall achieve compliance with the provisions of this subpart no later than the dates specified in paragraphs (f)(5)(i) or (ii) of this section, except as provided for in §6.6(i).

(i) If the affected area source is located within any UA plus offset and UC boundary, as defined in §63.761, the compliance date is January 4, 2010.

(ii) If the affected area source is not located within any UA plus offset and UC boundary, as defined in §63.761, the compliance date is January 5, 2009.

6. The owner or operator of an affected area source that is not located in an Urban-1 county, as defined in
§ 63.761 Definitions.

All terms used in this subpart shall have the meaning given them in the Clean Air Act (Act), subpart A of this part (General Provisions), and in this section. If the same term is defined in subpart A and in this section, it shall have the meaning given in this section for purposes of this subpart.

Alaskan North Slope means the approximately 180,000 square kilometer area (69,000 square mile area) extending from the Brooks Range to the Arctic Ocean.

Ancillary equipment means any of the following pieces of equipment: pumps, pressure relief devices, sampling connection systems, open-ended valves, or lines, valves, flanges, or other connectors.

API gravity means the weight per unit volume of hydrocarbon liquids as measured by a system recommended by the American Petroleum Institute (API) and is expressed in degrees.

Associated equipment, as used in this subpart and as referred to in section 112(n)(4) of the Act, means equipment associated with an oil or natural gas exploration or production well, and includes all equipment from the wellbore to the point of custody transfer, except glycol dehydration units and storage vessels with the potential for flash emissions.

Black oil means hydrocarbon (petroleum) liquid with an initial producing gas-to-oil ratio (GOR) less than 0.31 cubic meters per liter and an API gravity less than 40 degrees.

Boiler means an enclosed device using controlled flame combustion and having the primary purpose of recovering and exporting thermal energy in the form of steam or hot water. Boiler also means any industrial furnace as defined in 40 CFR 260.10.

Closed-vent system means a system that is not open to the atmosphere and is composed of piping, ductwork, connections, and if necessary, flow inducing devices that transport gas or vapor from an emission point to one or more control devices. If gas or vapor from regulated equipment is routed to a process (e.g., to a fuel gas system), the conveyance system shall not be considered a closed-vent system and is not