Environmental Protection Agency

§ 63.7499 What are the subcategories of boilers and process heaters?

The subcategories of boilers and process heaters, as defined in §63.7575 are:

(a) Pulverized coal/solid fossil fuel units.
(b) Stokers designed to burn coal/solid fossil fuel.
(c) Fluidized bed units designed to burn coal/solid fossil fuel.
(d) Stokers designed to burn biomass/bio-based solid.
(e) Fluidized bed units designed to burn biomass/bio-based solid.
(f) Suspension burners/Dutch Ovens designed to burn biomass/bio-based solid.
(g) Fuel Cells designed to burn biomass/bio-based solid.
(h) Hybrid suspension/grate burners designed to burn biomass/bio-based solid.
(i) Units designed to burn solid fuel.
(j) Units designed to burn liquid fuel.
(k) Units designed to burn liquid fuel in non-continental States or territories.
(l) Units designed to burn natural gas, refinery gas or other gas 1 fuels.
(m) Units designed to burn gas 2 (other) gases.
(n) Metal process furnaces.
(o) Limited-use boilers and process heaters.

§ 63.7500 What emission limitations, work practice standards, and operating limits must I meet?

(a) You must meet the requirements in paragraphs (a)(1) through (3) of this section, except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section. You must meet these requirements at all times.

(1) You must meet each emission limit and work practice standard in Tables 1 through 3, and 12 to this subpart that applies to your boiler or process heater, for each boiler or process heater at your source, except as provided under §63.7522. If your affected source is a new or reconstructed affected source that commenced construction or reconstruction after June 4, 2010, and before May 20, 2011, you may comply with the emission limits in Table 1 or 12 to this subpart until March 21, 2014. On and after March 21, 2014, you must comply with the emission limits in Table 1 to this subpart.

(2) You must meet each operating limit in Table 4 to this subpart that applies to your boiler or process heater. If you use a control device or combination of control devices not covered in Table 4 to this subpart, or you wish to establish and monitor an alternative operating limit and alternative monitoring parameters, you must apply to the EPA Administrator for approval of alternative monitoring under §63.8(f).

(3) At all times, you must operate and maintain any affected source, including associated air pollution control equipment and monitoring equipment, in a manner consistent with safety and good air pollution control practices for minimizing emissions. Determination of whether such operation and maintenance procedures are being used will be based on information available to the Administrator that may include, but is not limited to, monitoring results, review of operation and maintenance procedures, review of operation and maintenance records, and inspection of the source.

(b) As provided in §63.6(g), EPA may approve use of an alternative to the work practice standards in this section.

(c) Limited-use boilers and process heaters must complete a biennial tune-up as specified in §63.7540. They are not subject to the emission limits in Tables 1 and 2 to this subpart, the annual tune-up requirement in Table 3 to this subpart, or the operating limits in Table 4 to this subpart. Major sources that have limited-use boilers and process heaters must complete an energy assessment as specified in Table 3 to this subpart if the source has other existing boilers subject to this subpart that are not limited-use boilers.

§ 63.7501 How can I assert an affirmative defense if I exceed an emission limitations during a malfunction?

In response to an action to enforce the emission limitations and operating limits
set forth in §63.7500 you may assert an affirmative defense to a claim for civil penalties for exceeding such standards that are caused by malfunction, as defined at §63.2. Appropriate penalties may be assessed, however, if you fail to meet your burden of proving all of the requirements in the affirmative defense. The affirmative defense shall not be available for claims for injunctive relief.

(a) To establish the affirmative defense in any action to enforce such a limit, you must timely meet the notification requirements in paragraph (b) of this section, and must prove by a preponderance of evidence that:

(1) The excess emissions:

(i) Were caused by a sudden, infrequent, and unavoidable failure of air pollution control and monitoring equipment, process equipment, or a process to operate in a normal or usual manner, and

(ii) Could not have been prevented through careful planning, proper design or better operation and maintenance practices; and

(iii) Did not stem from any activity or event that could have been foreseen and avoided, or planned for; and

(iv) Were not part of a recurring pattern indicative of inadequate design, operation, or maintenance; and

(2) Repairs were made as expeditiously as possible when the applicable emission limitations were being exceeded. Off-shift and overtime labor were used, to the extent practicable to make these repairs; and

(3) The frequency, amount and duration of the excess emissions (including any bypass) were minimized to the maximum extent practicable during periods of such emissions; and

(4) If the excess emissions resulted from a bypass of control equipment or a process, then the bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage; and

(5) All possible steps were taken to minimize the impact of the excess emissions on ambient air quality, the environment and human health; and

(6) All emissions monitoring and control systems were kept in operation if at all possible, consistent with safety and good air pollution control practices; and

(7) All of the actions in response to the excess emissions were documented by properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs; and

(8) All of the monitoring and control equipment, or a process to operate in a normal or usual manner, and

(9) A written root cause analysis has been prepared, the purpose of which is to determine, correct, and eliminate the primary cause of the malfunction and the excess emissions resulting from the malfunction event at issue. The analysis shall also specify, using best monitoring methods and engineering judgment, the amount of excess emissions that were the result of the malfunction.

(b) Notification. The owner or operator of the facility experiencing an exceedance of its emission limit(s) during a malfunction shall notify the Administrator by telephone or facsimile (fax) transmission as soon as possible, but no later than 2 business days after the initial occurrence of the malfunction, if it wishes to avail itself of an affirmative defense to civil penalties for that malfunction. The owner or operator seeking to assert an affirmative defense shall also submit a written report to the Administrator within 45 days of the initial occurrence of the exceedance of the standard in §63.7500 to demonstrate, with all necessary supporting documentation, that it has met the requirements set forth in paragraph (a) of this section. The owner or operator may seek an extension of this deadline for up to 30 additional days by submitting a written request to the Administrator before the expiration of the 45 day period. Until a request for an extension has been approved by the Administrator, the owner or operator is subject to the requirement to submit such report within 45 days of the initial occurrence of the exceedance.

GENERAL COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

§63.7505 What are my general requirements for complying with this subpart?

(a) You must be in compliance with the emission limits and operating limits in this subpart. These limits apply to you at all times.

(b) [Reserved]

(c) You must demonstrate compliance with all applicable emission limits using performance testing, fuel analysis, or continuous monitoring systems (CMSs), including a continuous emission monitoring system (CEMS) or continuous opacity monitoring system (COMS), where applicable. You may demonstrate compliance with the applicable emission limit for hydrogen chloride or mercury using fuel analysis if the emission rate calculated according to §63.7530(c) is less than the applicable emission limit. Otherwise, you must demonstrate compliance for hydrogen chloride or mercury using performance testing, if subject to an applicable emission limit listed in Table 1, 2, or 12 to this subpart.

(d) If you demonstrate compliance with any applicable emission limit through performance testing and subsequent compliance with operating limits (including the use of continuous parameter monitoring system), or with a CEMS, or COMS, you must develop a site-specific monitoring plan according to the requirements in paragraphs (d)(1) through (4) of this section for the use of any