§ 60.111a Definitions.

In addition to the terms and their definitions listed in the Act and subpart A of this part the following definitions apply in this subpart:

(a) Storage vessel means each tank, reservoir, or container used for the storage of petroleum liquids, but does not include:

(1) Pressure vessels which are designed to operate in excess of 204.9 kPa (15 psig) without emissions to the atmosphere except under emergency conditions.

(2) Subsurface caverns or porous rock reservoirs, or

(3) Underground tanks if the total volume of petroleum liquids added to and taken from a tank annually does not exceed twice the volume of the tank.

(b) Petroleum liquids means petroleum, condensate, and any finished or intermediate products manufactured in a petroleum refinery but does not mean Nos. 2 through 6 fuel oils as specified in ASTM D396–78, 89, 90, 92, 96, or 98, gas turbine fuel oils Nos. 2–GT through 4–GT as specified in ASTM D2880–78 or 96, gas turbine fuel oils Nos. 2–GT through 4–GT as specified in ASTM D2880–78 or 96, or diesel fuel oils Nos. 2–D and 4–D as specified in ASTM D975–78, 96, or 98a. (These three methods are incorporated by reference—see § 60.17.)

(c) Petroleum refinery means each facility engaged in producing gasoline, kerosene, distillate fuel oils, residual fuel oils, lubricants, or other products through distillation of petroleum or through redistillation, cracking, extracting, or reforming of unfinished petroleum derivatives.

(d) Petroleum means the crude oil removed from the earth and the oils derived from tar sands, shale, and coal.

(e) Condensate means hydrocarbon liquid separated from natural gas which condenses due to changes in the temperature or pressure, or both, and remains liquid at standard conditions.

(f) True vapor pressure means the equilibrium partial pressure exerted by a petroleum liquid such as determined
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(g) Reid vapor pressure is the absolute vapor pressure of volatile crude oil and nonviscous petroleum liquids, except liquified petroleum gases, as determined by ASTM D323–82 or 94 (incorporated by reference—see § 60.17).

(h) Liquid-mounted seal means a foam or liquid-filled primary seal mounted in contact with the liquid between the tank wall and the floating roof continuously around the circumference of the tank.

(i) Metallic shoe seal includes but is not limited to a metal sheet held vertically against the tank wall by springs or weighted levers and is connected by braces to the floating roof. A flexible coated fabric (envelope) spans the annular space between the metal sheet and the floating roof.

(j) Vapor-mounted seal means a foam-filled primary seal mounted continuously around the circumference of the tank so there is an annular vapor space underneath the seal. The annular vapor space is bounded by the bottom of the primary seal, the tank wall, the liquid surface, and the floating roof.

(k) Custody transfer means the transfer of produced petroleum and/or condensate, after processing and/or treating in the producing operations, from storage tanks or automatic transfer facilities to pipelines or any other forms of transportation.


§ 60.112a Standard for volatile organic compounds (VOC).

(a) The owner or operator of each storage vessel to which this subpart applies which contains a petroleum liquid which, as stored, has a true vapor pressure equal to or greater than 10.3 kPa (1.5 psia) but not greater than 76.6 kPa (11.1 psia) shall equip the storage vessel with one of the following:

(1) An external floating roof, consisting of a pontoon-type or double-deck-type cover that rests on the surface of the liquid contents and is equipped with a closure device between the tank wall and the roof edge. Except as provided in paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(D) of this section, the closure device is to consist of two seals, one above the other. The lower seal is referred to as the primary seal and the upper seal is referred to as the secondary seal. The roof is to be floating on the liquid at all times (i.e., off the roof leg supports) except during initial fill and when the tank is completely emptied and subsequently refilled. The process of emptying and refilling when the roof is resting on the leg supports shall be continuous and shall be accomplished as rapidly as possible.

(i) The primary seal is to be either a metallic shoe seal, a liquid-mounted seal, or a vapor-mounted seal. Each seal is to meet the following requirements:

(A) The accumulated area of gaps between the tank wall and the metallic shoe seal or the liquid-mounted seal shall not exceed 212 cm² per meter of tank diameter (10.0 in² per ft of tank diameter) and the width of any portion of any gap shall not exceed 3.81 cm (11⁄2 in).

(B) The accumulated area of gaps between the tank wall and the vapor-mounted seal shall not exceed 212 cm² per meter of tank diameter (10.0 in² per ft of tank diameter) and the width of any portion of any gap shall not exceed 1.27 cm (1⁄2 in).

(C) One end of the metallic shoe is to extend into the stored liquid and the other end is to extend a minimum vertical distance of 61 cm (24 in) above the stored liquid surface.

(D) There are to be no holes, tears, or other openings in the shoe, seal fabric, or seal envelope.

(ii) The secondary seal is to meet the following requirements:

(A) The secondary seal is to be installed above the primary seal so that it completely covers the space between the roof edge and the tank wall except as provided in paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(B) of this section.

(B) The accumulated area of gaps between the tank wall and the secondary seal used in combination with a metallic shoe or liquid-mounted primary seal shall not exceed 21.2 cm² per meter of
tank diameter (1.0 in² per ft. of tank diameter) and the width of any portion of any gap shall not exceed 1.27 cm (1/2 in.). There shall be no gaps between the tank wall and the secondary seal used in combination with a vapor-mounted primary seal.

(C) There are to be no holes, tears or other openings in the seal or seal fabric.

(D) The owner or operator is exempted from the requirements for secondary seals and the secondary seal gap criteria when performing gap measurements or inspections of the primary seal.

(iii) Each opening in the roof except for automatic bleeder vents and rim space vents is to provide a projection below the liquid surface. Each opening in the roof except for automatic bleeder vents, rim space vents and leg sleeves is to be equipped with a cover, seal or lid which is to be maintained in a closed position at all times (i.e., no visible gap) except when the device is in actual use. Automatic bleeder vents are to be closed at all times when the cover is floating except when the cover is being floated off or is being landed on the leg supports. Rim vents are to be set to open only when the cover is being floated off the leg supports or at the manufacturer's recommended setting.

(3) A vapor recovery system which collects all VOC vapors and gases discharged from the storage vessel, and a vapor return or disposal system which is designed to process such VOC vapors and gases so as to reduce their emission to the atmosphere by at least 95 percent by weight.

(b) The owner or operator of each storage vessel to which this subpart applies which contains a petroleum liquid which, as stored, has a true vapor pressure greater than 76.6 kPa (11.1 psia), shall equip the storage vessel with a vapor recovery system which collects all VOC vapors and gases discharged from the storage vessel, and a vapor return or disposal system which is designed to process such VOC vapors and gases so as to reduce their emission to the atmosphere by at least 95 percent by weight.

secondary seal and the tank wall according to the following frequency:

(A) For primary seals, gap measurements shall be performed within 60 days of the initial fill with petroleum liquid and at least once every five years thereafter. All primary seal inspections or gap measurements which require the removal or dislodging of the secondary seal shall be accomplished as rapidly as possible and the secondary seal shall be replaced as soon as possible.

(B) For secondary seals, gap measurements shall be performed within 60 days of the initial fill with petroleum liquid and at least once every year thereafter.

(C) If any storage vessel is out of service for a period of one year or more, subsequent refilling with petroleum liquid shall be considered initial fill for the purposes of paragraphs (a)(1)(i)(A) and (a)(1)(i)(B) of this section.

(D) Keep records of each gap measurement at the plant for a period of at least 2 years following the date of measurement. Each record shall identify the vessel on which the measurement was performed and shall contain the date of the seal gap measurement, the raw data obtained in the measurement process required by paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section and the calculation required by paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of this section.

(E) If either the seal gap calculated in accord with paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of this section or the measured maximum seal gap exceeds the limitations specified by §60.112a of this subpart, a report shall be furnished to the Administrator within 60 days of the date of measurements. The report shall identify the vessel and list each reason why the vessel did not meet the specifications of §60.112a. The report shall also describe the actions necessary to bring the storage vessel into compliance with the specifications of §60.112a.

(ii) Determine gap widths in the primary and secondary seals individually by the following procedures:

(A) Measure seal gaps, if any, at one or more floating roof levels when the roof is floating off the roof leg supports.

(B) Measure seal gaps around the entire circumference of the tank in each place where a ½" diameter uniform probe passes freely (without forcing or binding against seal) between the seal and the tank wall and measure the circumferential distance of each such location.

(C) The total surface area of each gap described in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this section shall be determined by using probes of various widths to accurately measure the actual distance from the tank wall to the seal and multiplying each such width by its respective circumferential distance.

(iii) Add the gap surface area of each gap location for the primary seal and the secondary seal individually. Divide the sum for each seal by the nominal diameter of the tank and compare each ratio to the appropriate ratio in the standard in §60.112a(a)(1)(i) and §60.112a(a)(1)(ii).

(iv) Provide the Administrator 30 days prior notice of the gap measurement to afford the Administrator the opportunity to have an observer present.

(2) The owner or operator of each storage vessel to which this subpart applies which has a vapor recovery and return or disposal system shall provide the following information to the Administrator on or before the date on which construction of the storage vessel commences:

(i) Emission data, if available, for a similar vapor recovery and return or disposal system used on the same type of storage vessel, which can be used to determine the efficiency of the system. A complete description of the emission measurement method used must be included.

(ii) The manufacturer's design specifications and estimated emission reduction capability of the system.

(iii) The operation and maintenance plan for the system.

(iv) Any other information which will be useful to the Administrator in evaluating the effectiveness of the system in reducing VOC emissions.

[45 FR 23379, Apr. 4, 1980, as amended at 52 FR 11429, Apr. 8, 1987]
§ 60.114a Alternative means of emission limitation.  
(a) If, in the Administrator’s judgment, an alternative means of emission limitation will achieve a reduction in emissions at least equivalent to the reduction in emissions achieved by any requirement in § 60.112a, the Administrator will publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a notice permitting the use of the alternative means for purposes of compliance with that requirement.

(b) Any notice under paragraph (a) of this section will be published only after notice and an opportunity for a hearing.

(c) Any person seeking permission under this section shall submit to the Administrator a written application including:

1. An actual emissions test that uses a full-sized or scale-model storage vessel that accurately collects and measures all VOC emissions from a given control device and that accurately simulates wind and accounts for other emission variables such as temperature and barometric pressure.

2. An engineering evaluation that the Administrator determines is an accurate method of determining equivalence.

(d) The Administrator may condition the permission on requirements that may be necessary to ensure operation and maintenance to achieve the same emissions reduction as specified in § 60.112a.

(e) The primary vapor-mounted seal in the “Volume-Maximizing Seal” manufactured by R.F.I. Services Corporation is approved as equivalent to the vapor-mounted seal required by § 60.112a(a)(1)(i) and must meet the gap criteria specified in § 60.112a(a)(1)(i)(B). There shall be no gaps between the tank wall and any secondary seal used in conjunction with the primary seal in the “Volume-Maximizing Seal.”

[52 FR 11429, Apr. 8, 1987]

§ 60.115a Monitoring of operations.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, the owner or operator subject to this subpart shall maintain a record of the petroleum liquid stored, the period of storage, and the maximum true vapor pressure of that liquid during the respective storage period.

(b) Available data on the typical Reid vapor pressure and the maximum expected storage temperature of the stored product may be used to determine the maximum true vapor pressure from nomographs contained in API Bulletin 2517, unless the Administrator specifically requests that the liquid be sampled, the actual storage temperature determined, and the Reid vapor pressure determined from the sample(s).

(c) The true vapor pressure of each type of crude oil with a Reid vapor pressure less than 13.8 kPa (2.0 psia) or whose physical properties preclude determination by the recommended method is to be determined from available data and recorded if the estimated true vapor pressure is greater than 6.9 kPa (1.0 psia).

(d) The following are exempt from the requirements of this section:

1. Each owner or operator of each storage vessel storing a petroleum liquid with a Reid vapor pressure of less than 6.9 kPa (1.0 psia) provided the maximum true vapor pressure does not exceed 6.9 kPa (1.0 psia).

2. The owner or operator of each storage vessel equipped with a vapor recovery and return or disposal system in accordance with the requirements of § 60.112a(a)(3) and (b), or a closed vent system and control device meeting the specifications of 40 CFR 65.42(b)(4), (b)(5), or (c).


Subpart Kb—Standards of Performance for Volatile Organic Liquid Storage Vessels (Including Petroleum Liquid Storage Vessels) for Which Construction, Reconstruction, or Modification Commenced After July 23, 1984

SOURCE: 52 FR 11429, Apr. 8, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

§ 60.110b Applicability and designation of affected facility.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the affected facility