alternative that achieves the objectives of the rule and is consistent with statutory requirements. Section 203 requires EPA to establish a plan for informing and advising any small governments that may be significantly or uniquely impacted by the rule.

EPA has determined that the limited approval/limited disapproval action proposed does not include a Federal mandate that may result in estimated costs of $100 million or more to either State, local, or tribal governments in the aggregate, or to the private sector. This Federal action proposes to approve and disapprove pre-existing requirements under State or local law, and imposes no new requirements. Accordingly, no additional costs to State, local, or tribal governments, or to the private sector, result from this action.

E. Executive Order 13132, Federalism

Federalism (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999) revokes and replaces Executive Orders 12612 (Federalism) and 12875 (Enhancing the Intergovernmental Partnership). Executive Order 13132 requires EPA to develop an accountable process to ensure “meaningful and timely input by State and local officials in the development of regulatory policies that have federalism implications.” “Policies that have federalism implications” is defined in the Executive Order to include regulations that have “substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.” Under Executive Order 13132, EPA may not issue a regulation that has federalism implications, that imposes substantial direct compliance costs, and that is not required by statute, unless the Federal government provides the funds necessary to pay the direct compliance costs incurred by State and local governments, or EPA consults with State and local officials early in the process of developing the proposed regulation. EPA also may not issue a regulation that has federalism implications and that preempts State law unless the Agency consults with State and local officials early in the process of developing the proposed regulation.

This rule will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government, as specified in Executive Order 13132, because it merely proposes to approve or disapprove a State rule implementing a federal standard, and does not alter the relationship or the distribution of power and responsibilities established in the CAA. Thus, the requirements of section 6 of the Executive Order do not apply to this rule.

F. Executive Order 13175, Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

Executive Order 13175, entitled “Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments” (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000), requires EPA to develop an accountable process to ensure “meaningful and timely input by tribal officials in the development of regulatory policies that have tribal implications.” This proposed rule does not have tribal implications, as specified in Executive Order 13175. It will not have substantial direct effects on tribal governments, on the relationship between the Federal government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal government and Indian tribes. Thus, Executive Order 13175 does not apply to this rule.

EPA specifically solicits additional comment on this proposed rule from tribal officials.

G. Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children From Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks

EPA interprets Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997) as applying only to those regulatory actions that concern health or safety risks, such as the analysis required under section 5–301 of the Executive Order has the potential to influence the regulation. This rule is not subject to Executive Order 13045, because it approves a State rule implementing a Federal standard.

H. Executive Order 13211, Actions That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use

This rule is not subject to Executive Order 13211, “Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use” (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001) because it is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.

I. National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act

Section 12 of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) of 1995 requires Federal agencies to evaluate existing technical standards when developing a new regulation. To comply with NTTAA, EPA must consider and use “voluntary consensus standards” (VCS) if available and applicable when developing programs and policies unless doing so would be inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical.

The EPA believes that VCS are inapplicable to this action. Today’s action does not require the public to perform activities conducive to the use of VCS.

J. Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

Executive Order (EO) 12898 (59 FR 7629 (Feb. 16, 1994)) establishes federal executive policy on environmental justice. Its main provision directs federal agencies, to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law, to make environmental justice part of their mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States. EPA lacks the discretionary authority to address environmental justice in this rulemaking.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Intergovernmental relations, Ozone, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Volatile organic compounds.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.

Dated: June 29, 2011.

Jared Blumenfeld,
Regional Administrator, Region IX

[FR Doc. 2011–17784 Filed 7–14–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 82


RIN 2060–AQ39

Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Extension of Global Laboratory and Analytical Use Exemption for Essential Class I Ozone-Depleting Substances

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to extend the global laboratory and analytical use exemption for the production and import of Class I ozone-depleting substances through December 31, 2014, consistent with the recent actions by the
I. General Information

A. What should I consider when preparing my comments?

1. Confidential Business Information. Do not submit confidential business information (CBI) to EPA through http://www.regulations.gov or e-mail. Clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. For CBI information in a disk or CD-ROM that you mail to EPA, mark the outside of the disk or CD-ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD-ROM the specific information that is claimed as CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket.

Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

2. Tips for Preparing Your Comments. When submitting comments, remember to:

- Identify the rulemaking by docket number and other identifying information (subject heading, Federal Register date, and page number).
- Follow directions—The agency may ask you to respond to specific questions or organize comments by referencing a Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part or section number.
- Explain why you agree or disagree; suggest alternatives and substitute language for your requested changes.
- Describe any assumptions and provide any technical information and/or data that you used.
- If you estimate potential costs or burdens, explain how you arrived at your estimate in sufficient detail to allow for its reproduction.
- Provide specific examples to illustrate your concerns, and suggest alternatives.
- Explain your views as clearly as possible, avoiding the use of profanity or personal threats.
- Make sure to submit your comments by the comment period deadline identified.

II. Extension of the Global Laboratory and Analytical Use Exemption

The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Montreal Protocol) is the international agreement to reduce and eventually eliminate the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances (ODSs) that includes Annex A of the Montrea...
depleting substances (ODS). The elimination of production and consumption of ODSs is accomplished through adherence to phaseout schedules for specific controlled substances. Section 604 of the Clean Air Act requires EPA to promulgate regulations phasing out production and consumption of Class I ODS according to a prescribed schedule. EPA has accelerated this phaseout schedule pursuant to Section 606 of the Clean Air Act, which requires the Agency to promulgate an accelerated phaseout schedule in response to Montreal Protocol modifications that accelerate the international phaseout. EPA’s phaseout regulations for ODS are codified at 40 CFR part 82, subpart A. As of January 1, 1996, production and import of most Class I controlled substances—including chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), halons, carbon tetrachloride, and methyl chloroform—were phased out in developed countries, including the United States.

However, the Montreal Protocol provides exemptions that allow for the continued import and/or production of ODSs for specific uses. Under the Montreal Protocol, for most Class I ODSs, the Parties may collectively grant exemptions to the ban on production and import of ODS for uses that they determine to be “essential.” For example, with respect to CFCs, Article 2A(4) provides that the phaseout will apply “save to the extent that the Parties decide to permit the level of production or consumption that is necessary to satisfy uses agreed by them to be essential.” Similar language appears in the control provisions for halons (Art. 2B), carbon tetrachloride (Art. 2D), methyl chloroform (Art. 2E), hydrobromofluorocarbons (Art. 2G), and chlorobromomethane (Art. 21). As defined by Decision IV/25 of the Parties, use of a controlled substance is essential only if (1) it is necessary for the health, safety or is critical for the functioning of society (encompassing cultural and intellectual aspects), and (2) there are no available technically and economically feasible alternatives or substitutes that are acceptable from the standpoint of environment and health.

Decision X/19 (taken in 1998) allowed a general exemption for essential laboratory and analytical uses. Under the Clean Air Act does not specifically provide for this exemption, EPA determined that an exemption for essential laboratory and analytical uses was allowable under the Act as a de minimis exemption. EPA addressed the de minimis exemption in the final rule of March 13, 2001 (66 FR 14760).

Decision X/19 also requested the Montreal Protocol’s Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP), a group of technical experts from various Parties, to report annually to the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on laboratory and analytical procedures that could be performed without the use of controlled substances. It further stated that at future Meetings of the Parties (MOPs), the Parties would decide whether such procedures should no longer be eligible for exemptions. Based on the TEAP’s recommendation, the Parties to the Montreal Protocol decided in 1999 (Decision XI/15) that the general exemption no longer applied to the following uses: testing of oil and grease and total petroleum hydrocarbons in water; testing of tar in road-paving materials; and forensic finger-printing.

EPA incorporated this exclusion at Appendix C to subpart A of 40 CFR part 82 on February 11, 2002 (67 FR 6352).

At the 18th MOP, the Parties acknowledged the need for methyl bromide for laboratory and analytical procedures, and added methyl bromide to the approved ODSs under the essential laboratory and analytical use exemption. Decision XVIII/15 outlined specific uses and exclusions for methyl bromide under the exemption. EPA incorporated specific uses of methyl bromide in the essential laboratory and analytical use exemption at Appendix G to subpart A of 40 CFR part 82 on December 27, 2007 (72 FR 73264).

In November 2009, at the 21st MOP, the Parties in Decision XXI/6 extended the global laboratory and analytical use exemption through December 31, 2014. Decision XXI/6 lists laboratory and analytical uses of ODSs for which the TEAP and its Chemicals Technical Options Committee (CTOC), determined that alternative procedures exist. However, the Parties did not exclude any additional procedures from the exemption for laboratory and analytical uses. The Parties asked the TEAP and the CTOC to continue to consider possible alternatives and report back to the Parties.

EPA’s regulations regarding this exemption at 40 CFR 82.8(b) currently state, “A global exemption for Class I controlled substances for essential laboratory and analytical uses shall be in effect through December 31, 2011, subject to the restrictions in appendix G of this subpart, and subject to the recordkeeping and reporting requirements at §82.13(u) through (x). There is no amount specified for this exemption.” Because certain laboratory procedures continue to require the use of Class I substances in the United States, because non-ODS replacements for the Class I substances have not been identified for all uses, and because the Parties, via Decision XXI/6, extended this exemption through December 31, 2014, EPA is proposing to revise 40 CFR 82.8(b) to reflect the extension of the exemption to December 31, 2014. For a more detailed discussion of the reasons for the exemption, refer to the March 13, 2001, final rule (66 FR 14760). As discussed in the March 2001 rule, the controls in place for laboratory and analytical uses provide adequate assurance that very little, if any, environmental damage will result from the handling and disposal of the small amounts of Class I ODS used in such applications.

EPA is seeking comment on adding to the list of procedures that are excluded from the exemption under 40 CFR part 82, appendix G. EPA is not proposing to add these procedures at this time. The following uses are noted in Decision XXI/6 as being laboratory and analytical procedures for which the TEAP and its CTOC have concluded that alternatives exist.

(a) Analyses in which the ODS is used as a solvent for spectroscopic measurements:
   (i) of hydrocarbons (oil and grease) in water or soil
   (ii) of simethicone (polydimethylsiloxane)
   (iii) when recording infrared and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra, including hydroxyl index

(b) Analyses in which the ODS is used as a solvent for electrochemical methods of analysis:
   (i) cyanocobalamin
   (ii) bromine index

(c) Analyses involving selective solubility in the ODSs of:
   (i) cascarosides
   (ii) thyroid extracts
   (iii) polymers

(d) Analyses in which the ODS is used to preconcentrate the analyte, for:
   (i) liquid chromatography (HPLC) of drugs and pesticides
   (ii) gas chromatography of organic chemicals such as steroids
   (iii) adsorption chromatography of organic chemicals

(e) Titration of iodine with thiosulfate (iodometric analyses) for determination of:
   (i) iodine
   (ii) copper
   (iii) arsenic
   (iv) sulphur

(f) Iodine and bromine index measurements (titrations)

(g) Miscellaneous analyses, namely:
   (i) stiffness of leather
   (ii) jellification point
   (iii) specific weight of cement

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4 Class I controlled substances are listed at 40 CFR part 82, subpart A, Appendix A.
(iv) gas mask cartridge breakthrough
(h) Use of ODS as a solvent in organic
chemical reactions
(i) O- and N-difluoromethylation
(i) General use as laboratory solvent, namely
(i) washing of NMR tubes
(ii) removal of greases from glassware

EPA is seeking comment on whether alternative procedures exist in the
United States for each of these laboratory applications. EPA notes that the
unlike the procedures already listed in Appendix G to 40 CFR part 82, the list
developed by the TEAP and its CTOC has not been adopted by the Parties to
the Montreal Protocol. Commenters should be aware that if EPA were to add
these procedures to the list of procedures that are excluded from the
exemption in Appendix G, then no further production or import of ODS for
these laboratory procedures would be permitted. In the supply chain, ODS
distributors would not be able to obtain quantities for those purposes.

EPA is seeking comments on today's proposal and the alternative approach
described above, noting that the path forward for the general exemption for
laboratory and analytical procedures under the Montreal Protocol is not clear.
The Parties to the Montreal Protocol could decide between now and
December 31, 2014, to exclude additional procedures from the general
exemption; to replace the general exemption with a list of specifically
approved procedures; or not to extend the exemption beyond December 31,
2014.

III. Statutory and Executive Order
Reviews
A. Executive Order 12866: Regulatory
Planning and Review and Executive
Order 13563: Improving Regulation and
Regulatory Review

This action is not a “significant regulatory action” under the terms of
Executive Order (EO) 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993) and is therefore
not subject to review under Executive Order 12866 and 13563 (76 FR 3821,
January 21, 2011).

B. Paperwork Reduction Act

This action does not impose any new information collection burden. This
action extends the existing global laboratory and analytical use exemption
allowing the production and import of Class I ozone-depleting substances until
December 31, 2014. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has
previously approved the information collections contained in the
existing regulations at 40 CFR 82.8(a) under the provisions of the Paperwork
Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. and has assigned OMB control number
2060–0170. The OMB control numbers for EPA’s regulations in 40 CFR part 82
are listed in 40 CFR part 9.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The RFA generally requires an agency to prepare a regulatory flexibility
analysis of any rule subject to notice and comment rulemaking requirements
under the Administrative Procedure Act or any other statute unless the agency
certifies that the rule will not have a significant economic impact on a
substantial number of small entities. Small entities include small businesses,
small organizations, and small governmental jurisdictions.

For purposes of assessing the impact of today’s proposed rule on small
entities, small entity is defined as: (1) Pharmaceutical preparations
manufacturing businesses (NAICS code 325412) that have fewer than 750
employees; (2) a small governmental jurisdiction that is a government of a
city, county, town, school district or special district with a population of less
than 50,000; and (3) a small organization that is any not-for-profit
enterprise which is independently owned and operated and is not
dominant its field.

After considering the economic impacts of today’s proposed rule on
small entities, I certify that this action will not have a significant economic
impact on a substantial number of small entities. In determining whether a rule
has a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities, the
impact of concern is any significant adverse economic impact on small
entities, since the primary purpose of the regulatory flexibility analyses is to
identify and address regulatory alternatives “which minimize any
significant economic impact of the rule on small entities.” 5 U.S.C. 603 and 604.
Thus, an agency may certify that a rule will not have a significant economic
impact on a substantial number of small entities if the rule relieves regulatory
burden, or otherwise has a positive economic effect on all of the small
entities subject to the rule.

This action, once finalized, will provide an otherwise unavailable
benefit to those companies that obtain ozone-depleting substances under the
essential laboratory and analytical use exemption. We have therefore
concluded that today’s proposed rule will relieve regulatory burden for all
small entities. We continue to be interested in the potential impact of the
proposed rule on small entities and welcome comments on issues related to
such impacts.

D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

This action contains no Federal mandates under the provisions of Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA), 2 U.S.C. 1531–
1538 for State, local, or tribal governments or the private sector. The
action imposes no enforceable duty on any State, local or tribal governments or
the private sector. This action merely extends the essential laboratory and
analytical use exemption from the 1996 and 2005 phaseouts of Class I ODS until
December 31, 2014. Therefore, this action is not subject to the requirements
of sections 202 or 205 of the UMRA. This action is also not subject to the
requirements of section 203 of UMRA because it contains no regulatory
requirements that might significantly or uniquely affect small governments.

E. Executive Order 13132: Federalism

This action does not have federalism implications. It will not have substantial
direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national
government and the States, or on the distribution of power and
responsibilities among the various levels of government, as specified in
Executive Order 13132. This action merely extends the essential laboratory
and analytical use exemption from the 1996 and 2005 phaseouts of Class I ODS
until December 31, 2014. Thus, Executive Order 13132 does not apply to
this action. In the spirit of Executive Order 13132, and consistent with EPA
policy to promote communications between EPA and State and local
governments, EPA specifically solicits comment on this proposed action from
State and local officials.

F. Executive Order 13175: Consultation
and Coordination With Indian Tribal
Governments

This action does not have tribal implications, as specified in Executive
Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000). This rule does not significantly or
uniquely affect the communities of Indian tribal governments, nor does it
impose any enforceable duties on communities of Indian tribal
governments. This action merely extends the essential laboratory and
analytical use exemption from the 1996 and 2005 phaseouts of Class I ODS until
December 31, 2014. Thus, Executive Order 13175 does not apply to this
action. EPA specifically solicits additional comment on this proposed action from tribal officials.
G. Executive Order 13045: Protection of Children From Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks

EPA interprets EO 13045 (62 FR 19865, April 23, 1997) as applying only to those regulatory actions that concern health or safety risks, such that the analysis required under section 5–501 of the EO has the potential to influence the regulation. This action is not subject to EO 13045 because it does not establish an environmental standard intended to mitigate health or safety risks.

H. Executive Order 13211: Actions That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use

This proposed rule is not a “significant energy action” as defined in Executive Order 13211, “Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use” (66 FR 28355 (May 22, 2001)) because it is not likely to have a significant adverse effect on the supply, distribution, or use of energy. This proposed rule does not pertain to any segment of the energy production economy nor does it regulate any manner of energy use. Therefore, we have concluded that this proposed rule is not likely to have any adverse energy effects.

I. National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act

Section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (“NTTAA”), Public Law 104–113, section 12(d) (15 U.S.C. 272 note) directs EPA to use voluntary consensus standards in its regulatory activities unless to do so would be inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical. Voluntary consensus standards are technical standards (e.g., materials specifications, test methods, sampling procedures, and business practices) that are developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies. The NTTAA directs EPA to provide Congress, through OMB, explanations when the Agency decides not to use available and applicable voluntary consensus standards. This proposed rule does not involve technical standards. Therefore, EPA is not considering the use of any voluntary consensus standards.

J. Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

Executive Order (EO) 12898 (59 FR 7629 (Feb. 16, 1994)) establishes federal executive policy on environmental justice. Its main provision directs federal agencies, to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law, to make environmental justice part of their mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States.

EPA has determined that this proposed rule will not have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations because it will not affect the level of protection provided to human health or the environment. The controls in place for laboratory and analytical uses provide adequate assurance that very little, if any, environmental impact will result from the handling and disposal of the small amounts of Class I ODS used in such applications.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 82

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Air pollution control, Chemicals, Chlorofluorocarbons, Imports, Methyl Chloroform, Ozone, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: July 8, 2011.

Lisa P. Jackson,
Administrator.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 40 CFR Part 82 is proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 82—PROTECTION OF STRATOSPHERIC OZONE

1. The authority citation for part 82 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7414, 7601, 7671–7671q.

2. Section 82.8 is amended by revising paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§82.8 Grant of essential use allowances and critical use allowances.

* * * * * * * *  

(b) A global exemption for Class I controlled substances for essential laboratory and analytical uses shall be in effect through December 31, 2014, subject to the restrictions in appendix G of this subpart, and subject to the recordkeeping and reporting requirements at §82.13(u) through (x). There is no amount specified for this exemption.

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[FR Doc. 2011–17905 Filed 7–14–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 300


National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Deletion of the Hipps Road Landfill Superfund Site

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 is issuing a Notice of Intent To Delete the Hipps Road Landfill Superfund Site (Site) located in Jacksonville, Florida, from the National Priorities List (NPL) and requests public comments on this proposed action. The NPL, promulgated pursuant to section 105 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended, is an appendix of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). The EPA and the State of Florida, through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, have determined that all appropriate response actions under CERCLA, other than operation, maintenance, and five-year reviews have been completed. However, this deletion does not preclude future actions under Superfund.

DATES: Comments must be received by August 15, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID no. EPA–R04–SFUND–2011–0573, by one of the following methods:

• E-mail: miller.scott@epa.gov.
• Fax: 404–862–8896.
• Mail: Scott Miller, Remedial Project Manager, Superfund Remedial Branch, Section C, Superfund Division, U.S. EPA Region 4, 61 Forsyth Street, SW., Atlanta, GA 30303.
• Hand delivery: Same address as above. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket’s normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

Instructions: Direct your comments to Docket ID no. EPA–R04–SFUND–2011–0573. EPA’s policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at http://