complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have determined that it is one of a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This rule involves a safety zone that lasts for less than a month in duration and has designated times where the channel will be open for vessel traffic and traffic will be able to transit. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph 34(g) of Figure 2–1 of the Commandant Instruction. A Record of Environmental Consideration (REC) supporting this determination is available in the docket where indicated in the ADDRESSES section of this preamble.

G. Protest Activities

The Coast Guard respects the First Amendment rights of protesters. Protesters are asked to contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section to coordinate protest activities so that your message can be received without jeopardizing the safety or security of people, places or vessels.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

§ 165.05–0843 Safety Zone, Dredging: Shark River, NJ.

(a) Definitions. As used in this section, designated representative means a Coast Guard petty officer, warrant or commissioned officer on board a Coast Guard vessel and or on board another Federal, State, or local law enforcement vessel assisting the Captain of the Port, Delaware Bay with enforcement of the safety zone.

(b) Location. The following areas are safety zones: All waters from latitude 40°10′54.20″ N., longitude 74°15′1.05″ W., bounded by the eastern side of the channel, north, to latitude 40°11′6.87″ N., longitude 74°1′53.54″ W., in the Shark River, in Neptune City, NJ. These coordinates are based on the World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS 84) horizontal datum reference.

(c) Regulations. The general safety zone regulations found in § 165.23 apply to the safety zone created by this temporary section.

(1) All vessels and persons are prohibited from entering into or moving within the safety zone described in paragraph (a) of this section while it is subject to enforcement, unless authorized by the Captain of the Port, Delaware Bay, or by his designated representative.

(2) Persons or vessels seeking to enter or pass through the safety zone must contact the Captain of the Port, Delaware Bay, or his designated representative to seek permission to transit the area. The Captain of the Port, Delaware Bay can be contacted at telephone number 215–271–4807 or on Marine Band Radio VHF Channel 16 (156.8 MHz).

(3) Vessels may transit this portion of the Shark River from September 5, 2017, through September 23, 2017, weekly, from 9 p.m. on Thursdays through 9 a.m. on Mondays. During the periods when the channel is open mariners are urged to transit at their lowest safe speed, with no wake, no meeting or passing of other vessels, and proceed with caution after passing arrangements have been made. Mariners must communicate clearly, and in advance, with the dredge via VHF 6 or 13.

(4) This section applies to all vessels except those engaged in the following operations: Enforcing laws, servicing aids to navigation and emergency response vessels.

(d) Enforcement. The U.S. Coast Guard may be assisted by Federal, State and local agencies in the patrol and enforcement of the zone.

(e) Enforcement periods. This section will be enforced weekly, from 9 a.m. on Mondays through 9 p.m. on Thursdays, from September 5, 2017, through September 23, 2017, unless cancelled earlier by the Captain of the Port.

Dated: August 30, 2017.

Scott E. Anderson,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Delaware Bay.

[FR Doc. 2017–18732 Filed 9–1–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52


Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan; Imperial County Air Pollution Control District; Stationary Sources Permits

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is finalizing action on a revision to the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (ICAPCD or District) portion of the California State Implementation Plan (SIP). We are finalizing a conditional approval of one rule. This rule updates and revises the District’s New Source Review (NSR) permitting program for new and modified sources of air pollution.

DATES: This rule is effective on October 5, 2017.

ADDRESSES: The EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket No. EPA–R09–OAR–2015–0621. All documents in the docket are listed on the http://www.regulations.gov Web site. Although it may be listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the Internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available through http://www.regulations.gov, or please contact the person identified in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section for additional availability information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thien Khoi Nguyen, EPA Region IX, (415) 947–4120, nguyen.thien@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

Definitions

I. Proposed Action
II. Public Comments and EPA Responses
III. EPA Action
IV. Incorporation by Reference
V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Definitions

For the purpose of this document, we are giving meaning to certain words or initials as follows:

(i) The word or initials CAA mean or refer to the Clean Air Act, unless the context indicates otherwise.
Rule 207 satisfies the statutory and regulatory requirements for a general NSR permit program as set forth in CAA section 110(a)(2)(C) and 40 CFR 51.160—51.164, and the statutory and regulatory requirements for a nonattainment NSR permit program for moderate ozone and serious PM10 nonattainment areas as set forth in the applicable provisions of part D of title I of the Act (sections 172 and 173), in 40 CFR 51.165 and 40 CFR 51.307. For a moderate PM2.5 nonattainment area, Rule 207 mostly satisfies these requirements; however, we have determined that it does not satisfy the requirements of 40 CFR 51.165(a)(13), which requires ammonia to be regulated as a PM2.5 precursor. The state committed to revise the rule to correct this deficiency in Rule 207, and, based on that assertion, EPA proposed conditional approval of the rule.

II. Public Comments and EPA Responses

The EPA’s proposed action provided a 30-day public comment period. During this period we received two comments, one posted anonymously and one from the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD). Copies of each comment letter have been added to the docket for this action and are accessible at www.regulations.gov. We have summarized the comments received and provided a response to the comments below.

Comment 1: “keep standards in place. We all want clean air to breathe.”

Response 1: The EPA did not propose to remove any standards. Instead, as explained in our proposed rulemaking, our action concerns ICAPCD Rule 207. Rule 207 implements a federal preconstruction permit program for new and modified minor sources of regulated NSR pollutants, and new and modified major sources of regulated NSR pollutants for which the area is designated nonattainment. This action will not remove or alter the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, which are the federal standards promulgated by the EPA to protect air quality. As explained in our technical support document (TSD), dated November 28, 2016, in the rulemaking docket,2 this action will update ICAPCD’s SIP-approved preconstruction permitting program, including lower emission thresholds at which projects will trigger requirements for Lowest Achievable Emission Reductions and offsets. TSD at 20. These updates to ICAPCD’s preconstruction permitting program will promote air quality protection, consistent with current federal requirements.

Response 2: The EPA disagrees with the comment. As explained further below, the EPA believes the record supports conditional approval of Rule 207 because the State has committed to correct the deficiency in Rule 207 identified by EPA in the November 2016 TSD within one year of this final action.

As explained in our proposed action, Rule 207 implements a federal preconstruction permit program for new and modified minor sources of regulated NSR pollutants, and new and modified major sources of regulated NSR pollutants for which the area is designated nonattainment. Rule 207 authorizes ICAPCD to issue permits that will contain emission limits, and associated monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements, consistent with the EPA’s requirements for such programs as set forth in CAA sections 110(a)(2), 172 and 173, and applicable proposed limited approval and limited disapproval of Rule 207. See 81 FR 91895 (December 19, 2016).

I. Proposed Action

On June 12, 2017, the EPA proposed a conditional approval of Rule 207 (New and Modified Stationary Source Review; as noted in Table 1) submitted by CARB for incorporation into the ICAPCD portion of the California SIP. 82 FR 26883.3 Table 1 also lists the dates the rule was adopted by ICAPCD and submitted by CARB, which is the governor’s designee for California SIP submittals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule No.</th>
<th>Rule title</th>
<th>Adopted/revised</th>
<th>Submitted</th>
<th>Proposed action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>207</td>
<td>New and Modified Stationary Source Review</td>
<td>10/22/13</td>
<td>1/21/14</td>
<td>Conditional Approval</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Previously, the EPA proposed a limited approval and limited disapproval of Rule 207. 81 FR 91895. (December 19, 2016)

2 We included the November 28, 2016 TSD in the rulemaking docket in connection with our previous
regulatory provisions such as 40 CFR 51.160–51.165 and 40 CFR 51.307.

The EPA’s proposed conditional approval of Rule 207 explained our determination that Rule 207 largely satisfies the statutory and regulatory requirements for an NSR permit program. We noted, however, one area in which Rule 207 was deficient. Specifically, our proposed action noted that Rule 207 does not adequately regulate ammonia as a PM2.5 precursor as required by 40 CFR 51.165(a)(13). Our proposed action explained that additional information on this issue could be found in our TSD. Our TSD explains that Rule 207, section B, contains various definitions necessary to implement the preconstruction permitting program set forth in the rule. TSD at 4. The TSD states that Rule 207’s definition of the term “precursor” explicitly applies to two of four PM2.5 precursors, NOx and SOx, and indirectly applies to a third PM2.5 precursor, VOCs. Id. at 10. With respect to PM2.5 precursor, ammonia, the TSD states that the Rule 207 definition of “precursor” does not satisfy regulatory requirements. Id. at 10–11. The TSD notes that ICAPCD adopted Rule 207 in October 2013, prior to EPA’s revisions to our PM2.5 regulations, including revisions relevant to the regulation of PM2.5 precursors. In particular, the TSD notes that Rule 207 requires regulation of ammonia as a PM2.5 precursor “if ammonia is determined to be a necessary component of the PM2.5 control strategy in the attainment demonstration required by USEPA in the SIP.” Id. In other words, Rule 207 in its current form does not regulate ammonia as a PM2.5 precursor absent a finding by EPA that regulation of ammonia is a necessary component of ICAPCD’s strategy to attain the PM2.5 NAAQS. This presumption against regulating ammonia as a precursor absent a determination that regulation is necessary for attainment was rejected by the Court of Appeals for District of Columbia Circuit in Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) v. EPA, 706 F.3d 428 (D.C. Cir. 2013). Following the NRDC decision, EPA revised its regulatory requirements, (specifically, by promulgating 40 CFR 51.165(a)(13)), to require regulation of ammonia as a PM2.5 precursor unless EPA determines that such regulation is not necessary. As explained above, our proposed conditional approval of Rule 207 applies the correct standard pertaining to ammonia as a PM2.5 precursor and appropriately identifies Rule 207’s definition of precursor as deficient on the basis that it does not meet the requirements of 40 CFR 51.165(a)(13). As stated in our TSD, the remedy for Rule 207’s deficient definition of “precursor” is either a revision to the definition of “precursor” or a demonstration that regulation of ammonia is not necessary to attain the PM2.5 NAAQS, consistent with the EPA’s requirements for such demonstrations at 40 CFR 51.1006(a)(3). TSD at 10–11. Similarly, our proposed conditional approval of Rule 207 identified our authority under CAA section 110(k)(4) to conditionally approve a plan revision based on a commitment by the State to adopt specific enforceable measures by a date certain but no later than one year after the effective date of final action. We also explained that the enforceable measures that the State must submit are revisions that regulate ammonia as a PM2.5 precursor and that the District had in fact submitted such a letter. As noted by the commenter, ICAPCD’s letter commits to submit a revised Rule 207 that will revise the definitions of the terms “precursor” and “significant.” The record for this action demonstrates that EPA identified a deficiency in Rule 207 based on the definition of “precursor” not properly regulating ammonia as far back as December 19, 2016, when EPA proposed a limited approval/limited disapproval of Rule 207 and included the TSD in the publicly available rulemaking docket. As explained above and in our TSD, the only reason that Rule 207 is deficient with respect to federal requirements for NSR permit programs (specifically, 40 CFR 51.165(a)(13)) is that certain definitions in Rule 207 mean that the rule does not properly regulate ammonia as a PM2.5 precursor. Therefore, the most logical approach to remedy the identified deficiency is to revise the definitions for these terms as the TSD advises. The State and the District committed to implement the changes necessary to correct the deficiency.

We do not agree with the commenter that ICAPCD’s commitment to remedy the deficiencies in Rule 207’s definitions of “precursor” or “significant” are insufficiently specific or are unenforceable. The EPA’s TSD explains that Rule 207’s definition of “precursor” fails to include ammonia; therefore, the State and the District reasonably committed to address the deficiency by revising certain definitions. In addition, the District must solicit input from the public regarding the revisions to the definitions, and, as part of the public participation process for the revisions to Rule 207, interested members of the public will have the opportunity to provide input regarding the District’s revised definitions and whether they meet the requirements of 40 CFR 51.165(a)(13). In addition, the public will be able to provide input as to whether the revisions provide an enforceable mechanism for regulating ammonia as a PM2.5 precursor. EPAG also disagrees with the commenter that the District’s reasons similar to those necessitating a revision to the definition of “precursor.”

6 40 CFR 51.165(a)(13) provides: “The plan shall require that the control requirements of this section applicable to major stationary sources and major modifications of PM2.5 shall also apply to major stationary sources and major modifications of PM2.5 precursors, NOx, SOx, and VOCs, except that a reviewing authority may exempt new major stationary sources and major modifications of a particular precursor from the requirements of this section for PM2.5 if the NNSR precursor demonstration submitted to and approved by the Administrator shows that such sources do not contribute significantly to PM2.5 levels that exceed the standard in the area. Any demonstration submitted for the Administrator’s review must meet the conditions for a NNSR precursor demonstration as set forth in § 51.165(a)(3).”

4 See also, 82 FR 91897.

commitment lacks specificity because it does not explain how the revisions to Rule 207 will comply with CAA section 110(l). Once the EPA receives ICAPCD’s revisions to Rule 207, the EPA will review the revised rule pursuant to CAA section 110(l) to ensure that the revisions do not interfere with any applicable requirements concerning attainment and reasonable further progress, or any other applicable requirements of the Act, and will take public comment on our determination regarding CAA section 110(l) along with other aspects of our action. It is therefore unnecessary for the District to provide this analysis in its commitment letter to EPA.

CBD also provided several suggestions for measures to control and monitor ammonia emissions and concluded that the failure to commit to implement such measures in the area puts the public at risk and deprives the public of its ability to access compliance with the statute. The EPA disagrees that the State and the District are required to commit to implement specific control measures in order to obtain this conditional approval or that the public will be deprived of the right to review the state revisions to Rule 207 or any permits issued thereunder. When the District proposes revisions to Rule 207 or is actively issuing permits pursuant to that rule, CBD and other parties may comment as part of the public participation processes for those future actions. Thus, the comments are not within the scope of our current action, and the comments do not demonstrate a flaw in the EPA’s identification of the Rule 207 deficiency and revisions necessary to address it.

Finally, because the EPA believes that the commitment of the State and the District to remedy the deficiencies identified in Rule 207 to regulate ammonia as a precursor to PM$_{2.5}$ is sufficient, we disagree that EPA is obligated to implement a FIP. Our proposed action to conditionally approve Rule 207 is based on a commitment from the State and the District to submit specific, enforceable measures in the form of revised definitions for the terms “precursor” and “significant” within twelve months from the effective date of our final action. Because the State and the District provided the necessary commitments, EPA reasonably proposed to conditionally approve Rule 207 pursuant to CAA section 110(k)(4).

III. EPA Action

As authorized by CAA section 110(k)(4), EPA is finalizing conditional approval of Rule 207—New and Modified Stationary Source Review into the ICAPCD portion of the California SIP.

Section 110(k)(4) authorizes the EPA to conditionally approve a plan revision based on a commitment by the State to adopt specific enforceable measures by a date certain, but not later than one year after the effective date of the plan approval. In this instance, the enforceable measures that the State must submit are revisions to regulate ammonia as a PM$_{2.5}$ precursor. On May 17, 2017, CARB submitted a letter dated May 16, 2017 from the District committing to submit a SIP revision that regulates ammonia as a PM$_{2.5}$ precursor no later than one year from the effective date of this final action. Under a conditional approval, the state must adopt and submit the specific revisions it has committed to within one year. If the State does not comply with this commitment, the EPA’s conditional approval will convert to a disapproval and start an 18-month clock for sanctions under CAA section 179(a)(2) and a two-year clock for a federal implementation plan (FIP) under CAA section 110(c)(1).

In today’s action we are also making a technical correction to our previous action approving Rule 206 into the ICAPCD portion of the California SIP. In that action, we provided incorrect regulatory text to effect that change. This final action includes the corrected regulatory text to approve the revised Rule 206 in the California SIP. We did not seek public comment on this technical correction because public participation requirements were satisfied as part of our action approving Rule 206 into the SIP.

IV. Incorporation by Reference

In this rule, the EPA is finalizing regulatory text that includes incorporation by reference. In accordance with requirements of 1 CFR 51.5, the EPA is finalizing the incorporation by reference of the ICAPCD rules listed in Table 1 of this notice. The EPA has made, and will continue to make, these rules generally available electronically through www.regulations.gov and in hard copy at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX (Air -3), 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA, 94105–3901.

Additional information about these statutes and Executive Orders can be found at http://www2.epa.gov/laws-regulations/laws-and-executive-orders.

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 and was therefore not submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review.

B. Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)

This action does not impose an information collection burden under the PRA because this action does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA)

I certify that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the RFA. This action will not impose any requirements on small entities beyond those imposed by state law.

D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA)

This action does not contain any unfunded mandate as described in UMRA, 2 U.S.C. 1531–1538, and does not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. This action does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. Accordingly, no additional costs to State, local, or tribal governments, or to the private sector, will result from this action.

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.

F. Executive Order 13175: Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

This action does not have tribal implications, as specified in Executive Order 13175, because the SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where the EPA or an Indian tribe has demonstrated that a tribe has jurisdiction, and will not impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law.
Thus, Executive Order 13175 does not apply to this action.

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

The EPA interprets Executive Order 13045 as applying only to those regulatory actions that concern environmental health or safety risks that the EPA has reason to believe may disproportionately affect children, per the definition of “covered regulatory action” in section 2–202 of the Executive Order. This action is not subject to Executive Order 13045 because it does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law.

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

This action is not subject to Executive Order 13211, because it is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.

I. National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA)

Section 12(d) of the NTTAA directs the EPA to use voluntary consensus standards in its regulatory activities unless to do so would be inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical. The EPA believes that this action is not subject to the requirements of section 12(d) of the NTTAA because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the CAA.

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

The EPA lacks the discretionary authority to address environmental justice in this rulemaking.

K. Congressional Review Act (CRA)

This action is subject to the CRA, and the EPA will submit a rule report to each House of Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. This action is not a “major rule” as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

L. Petitions for Judicial Review

Under section 307(b)(1) of the Clean Air Act, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by November 6, 2017. Filing a petition for reconsideration by the Administrator of this final rule does not affect the finality of this rule for the purposes of judicial review nor does it extend the time within which a petition for judicial review may be filed, and shall not postpone the effectiveness of such rule or action. This action may not be challenged later in proceedings to enforce its requirements (see section 307(b)(2)).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Carbon monoxide, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Particulate matter, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulfur oxides, Volatile organic compounds.

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

Dated: July 31, 2017.

Alexis Strauss,
Acting Regional Administrator, Region IX.

Part 52, chapter I, title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 52—APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

§ 52.220 Identification of plan—in part.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(56) * * *

(i) * * *

(B) Previously approved on November 10, 1980 in paragraph (c)(442)(i)(A) of this section and now deleted with replacement in paragraph (c)(490)(i)(A)(1) of this section: Rule 207 and Rule 209.

* * * * *

(442) * * *

(i) * * *

(A) * * *


* * * * *

(490) An amended regulation was submitted on January 21, 2014 by the Governor’s designee.

(i) Incorporation by reference.

(A) Imperial County Air Pollution Control District.


§ 52.232 [Amended]

3. Section 52.232 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (a)(1).

§ 52.233 [Amended]

4. Section 52.233 is amended by removing and reserving paragraph (a)(1).

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 161020985–7181–02]

RIN 0648–XF654

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Temporary rule; reallocation.

SUMMARY: NMFS is reallocating the projected unused amount of Pacific cod from vessels using jig gear and catcher vessels greater than or equal to 60 feet (18.3 meters) length overall (LOA) using hook-and-line gear to catcher vessels less than 60 feet (18.3 meters) LOA using hook-and-line or pot gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area. This action is necessary to allow the 2017 total allowable catch of Pacific cod to be harvested.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Obren Davis, 907–586–7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Regulations governing fishing by U.S. vessels in accordance with the FMP appear at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The 2017 Pacific cod total allowable catch (TAC) specified for vessels using jig gear in the BSAI is 1,293 metric tons (mt) as established by the final 2017 and