DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER22–2008–000]

SEPV Sierra, LLC; Supplemental Notice That Initial Market-Based Rate Filing Includes Request for Blanket Section 204 Authorization

This is a supplemental notice in the above-referenced proceeding of SEPV Sierra, LLC’s application for market-based rate authority, with an accompanying rate tariff, noting that such application includes a request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest should file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant.

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing protests with regard to the applicant’s request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability, is June 22, 2022.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper, using the FERC Online links at https://www.ferc.gov. To facilitate electronic service, persons with internet access who will eFile a document and/or be listed as a contact for an intervenor must create and validate an eRegistration account using the eRegistration link. Select the eFiling link to log on and submit the intervention or protests.

Persons unable to file electronically may mail similar pleadings to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. Hand delivered submissions in docketed proceedings should be delivered to Health and Human Services, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the Federal Register, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission’s eLibrary link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. At this time, the Commission has suspended access to the Commission’s Public Reference Room, due to the proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID–19), issued by the President on March 13, 2020. For assistance, contact the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call toll-free, (888) 208–3676 or TYY, (202) 502–8659.

Dated: June 2, 2022.

Debbie–Anne A. Reese,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2022–12336 Filed 6–7–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY


AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing notice of its action to provide an alternative compliance demonstration approach (the “June 2022 Compliance Action”) to certain small refineries whose 2016, 2017, and/or 2018 petitions for small refinery exemptions (SREs) under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program were denied in April and June 2022 after being judicially remanded to EPA for reconsideration.

DATES: June 8, 2022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Karen Nelson, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Compliance Division, Environmental Protection Agency, 2000 Traverwood Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48105; telephone number: 734–214–4657; email address: nelson.karen@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Clean Air Act (CAA) provides that a small refinery 1 may at any time petition EPA for an extension of the exemption from the obligations of the RFS program for the reason of disproportionate economic hardship (DEH). 2 In evaluating such petitions, the EPA Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, will consider the findings of a Department of Energy (DOE) study and other economic

1The CAA defines a small refinery as “a refinery for which the average aggregate daily crude oil throughput for a calendar year . . . does not exceed 75,000 barrels.” CAA section 211(o)(1)(K).
2 CAA section 211(o)(9)(B)(i).
In separate actions announced on April 7, 2022, and June 3, 2022, EPA denied 36 and 69 small refinery exemption (SRE) petitions, respectively, for the 2016–2021 compliance years by finding the petitioning small refineries did not face DEH caused by compliance with the RFS program. Forty-one of those 105 SRE petitions were for the 2016, 2017, or 2018 compliance years, and 34 of those 41 SRE petitions had previously been granted, and those decisions were reversed on remand. It is the 2016, 2017, and 2018 RFS renewable volume obligations (RVOs) or “RFS obligations”) created by the denial of those 34 SRE petitions that are the subject of the June 2022 Compliance Action.5

II. Compliance Action

Concurrent with issuing the April 2022 SRE Denial on April 7, 2022, EPA announced6 the availability of the April 2022 Compliance Action,7 which provided an alternative compliance demonstration approach for the 31 small refineries whose SRE petitions had previously been granted for the 2018 compliance year and were denied upon remand and reconsideration.8 With this notice, EPA is announcing the availability of the June 2022 Compliance Action, which supplements the April 2022 Compliance Action to include three additional SRE petitions for the 2016 or 2017 compliance year that had not yet been decided at that time.9 EPA is providing 31 specific small refineries with an alternative approach to demonstrating compliance with their 2016, 2017, and/or 2018 RVOs created by the SRE Denials. Each of the 31 specified small refineries had previously been granted an SRE for the 2016, 2017, and/or 2018 compliance year; however, each of their petitions again came before EPA as the result of judicial remands. As established in the June 2022 Compliance Action, EPA has determined there are extenuating circumstances that warrant an alternative compliance demonstration approach that the specified small refineries may use to meet their 2016, 2017, and/or 2018 RFS obligations without retiring any additional RINs.

III. Judicial Review

Section 307(b)(1) of the CAA governs judicial review of final actions by the EPA. This section provides, in part, that petitions for review must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit: (i) when the agency action consists of “nationally applicable . . . final actions taken by the Administrator,” or (ii) when such action is locally or regionally applicable, but “such action is based on a determination of nationwide scope or effect and if in taking such action the Administrator finds and publishes that such action is based on such a determination.”10 For locally or regionally applicable final actions, the CAA reserves to the EPA complete discretion whether to invoke the exception in (ii) described in the preceding sentence. This final action is “nationally applicable” within the meaning of CAA section 307(b)(1). In the alternative, to the extent a court finds this final action to be locally or regionally applicable, the Administrator is exercising the complete discretion afforded to him under the CAA to make and publish a finding that this action is based on a determination of “nationwide scope or effect” within the meaning of CAA section 307(b)(1).10 This final action provides an alternative approach to demonstrating compliance with the 2016, 2017, and/or 2018 RFS obligations for 31 small refineries across the country and applies to small refineries located within 16 states in 7 of the 10 EPA regions and in 7 different Federal judicial circuits.11 This final action is based on the extenuating circumstances applicable to these 31 small refineries and the impacts their compliance with their newly created 2016, 2017, and/or 2018 RFS obligations under the existing compliance scheme would have on the RFS program. For these reasons, this final action is nationally applicable or, alternatively, the Administrator is exercising the complete discretion afforded to him by the CAA and hereby finds that this final action is based on a determination of nationwide scope or effect for purposes of CAA section 307(b)(1) and is hereby publishing that finding in the Federal Register.

Under section 307(b)(1) of the CAA, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit by August 8, 2022.

Joseph Golzman,
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator,
Office of Air and Radiation.

[FR Doc. 2022–12357 Filed 6–7–22; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY


Notice of June 2022 Denial of Petitions for Small Refinery Exemptions Under the Renewable Fuel Standard Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Denial of petitions.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing notice of its final action entitled June 2022 Denial of Petitions for RFS Small Refinery Exemptions (“SRE Denial”) in which EPA denied 69 small refinery exemption (SRE) petitions under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program. EPA is providing this notice for public awareness of, and the basis for, EPA’s decision announced on June 3, 2022.

DATES: June 8, 2022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Nelson, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Compliance Division, Environmental Protection Agency, 2000 Traverwood Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48105; telephone number: 734–214–4657; email address: nelson.karen@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

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The June 2022 Compliance Action covers a total of 34 SRE petitions; however, the three additional SRE petitions were all submitted by small refineries that were previously covered in the April 2022 Compliance Action. Thus, the June 2022 Compliance Action still applies to 31 small refineries.

In deciding whether to invoke the exception by making and publishing a finding that this final action is based on a determination of nationwide scope or effect, the Administrator has also taken into account a number of policy considerations, including his judgment balancing the benefit of obtaining the D.C. Circuit’s authoritative centralized review versus allowing development of the issue in other contexts and the best use of Agency resources.

In the report on the 1977 Amendments that revised section 307(b)(1) of the CAA, Congress noted that the Administrator’s determination that the “nationwide scope or effect” exception applies would be appropriate for any action that has a scope or effect beyond a single judicial circuit. See H.R. Rep. No. 95–294 at 323, 324, reprinted in 1977 CONG. REC. H. 1402–03.