

the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) for the following Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x) source categories: Nitric and Adipic Acid Manufacturing Plants, Utility Boilers, Cement Manufacturing Plants, Glass Manufacturing Plants, and Iron and Steel Manufacturing Plants. The intended effect of proposing to include these negative declarations in the SIP is to meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended in 1990 (CAA or the Act). In the Final Rules Section of this Federal Register, the EPA is acting on the State's SIP revision as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial revision amendment and anticipates no adverse comments. A rationale for this action is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to this proposed rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this rule. If EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. The EPA will not institute a second comment period on this document. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments on this proposed rule must be received in writing by December 2, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this action should be addressed to: Daniel A. Meer, Rulemaking Section (A-5-3), Air and Toxics Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901.

Copies of the negative declarations are available for public inspection at EPA's Region 9 office and at the following locations during normal business hours.

Rulemaking Section (A-5-3), Air and Toxics Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105.

Air Docket (6102), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 "M" Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460.

California Air Resources Board, Stationary Source Division, Rule Evaluation Section, 2020 "L" Street, Sacramento, CA 95812.

Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, Rule Development Section, 8411 Jackson Road, Sacramento, CA 95826.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie A. Rose, Rulemaking Section, A-5-3, Air and Toxics Division, U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901, Telephone: (415) 744-1184.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document concerns negative declarations for five NO_x source categories from the SMAQMD: (1) Nitric and Adipic Acid Manufacturing Plants, (2) Utility Boilers, (3) Cement Manufacturing Plants, and (4) Glass Manufacturing Plants, and (5) Iron and Steel Manufacturing Plants. These negative declarations certify that the above source categories are not present in the SMAQMD. They were adopted by the SMAQMD on August 3, 1995, and submitted to EPA on March 4, 1996, by the California Air Resources Board. For further information, please see the information provided in the Direct Final action which is located in the Rules Section of this Federal Register.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Dated: October 17, 1996.

Felicia Marcus,

Regional Administrator.

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40 CFR Part 52

[CA 159-0018b; FRL-5641-6]

Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to act on revisions to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP) which concern eight negative declarations from the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District for the following volatile organic compound (VOC) source categories: Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturing Industry (SOCMI) Distillation, SOCMI Reactors, SOCMI Batch Processing, Offset Lithography, Industrial Wastewater, Plastic Parts-Business Machines, Plastic Parts-Other, and Ship Building. The intended effect of proposing to include these negative declarations in the SIP is to meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended in 1990 (CAA or the Act). In the Final Rules Section of this Federal Register, the EPA is acting on the State's SIP revision as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial revision amendment and anticipates no adverse comments. A

rationale for this action is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to this proposed rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this rule. If EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. The EPA will not institute a second comment period on this document. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments on this proposed rule must be received in writing by December 2, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this action should be addressed to: Daniel A. Meer, Chief, Rulemaking Section (A-5-3), Air and Toxics Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901.

Copies of the negative declarations are available for public inspection at EPA's Region 9 office and at the following locations during normal business hours.

Rulemaking Section (A-5-3), Air and Toxics Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105.

Air Docket (6102), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 "M" Street, S.W., Washington, DC. 20460.

California Air Resources Board, Stationary Source Division, Rule Evaluation Section, 2020 "L" Street, Sacramento, CA 95812.

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (formerly San Bernardino County Air Pollution Control District, 15428 Civic Drive, Suite 200, Victorville, CA 92392-2382.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie A. Rose, Rulemaking Section, A-5-3, Air and Toxics Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901, Telephone: (415) 744-1184.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document concerns negative declarations for eight VOC source categories from the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District: (1) Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturing Industry (SOCMI) Distillation, (2) SOCMI Reactors, (3) SOCMI Batch Processing, (4) Offset Lithography, (5) Industrial Wastewater, (6) Plastic Parts -Business Machines, (7) Plastic Parts - Other, and (8) Ship Building. These negative declarations confirm that these source categories are not present in the MDAQMD. They were

submitted to EPA on August 7, 1995 by the California Air Resources Board.

For further information, please see the information provided in the Direct Final action which is located in the Rules Section of this Federal Register.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Date: October 6, 1996.

Felicia Marcus,

Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-27843 Filed 10-31-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

40 CFR Part 82

[FRL-5645-3]

RIN 2060-AF36

Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Proposal to Extend the Existing Reclamation Requirements

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: Through this action EPA is proposing to amend the Clean Air Act section 608 refrigerant recycling regulations to extend the effectiveness of the refrigerant purity requirements of § 82.154 (g) and (h), which are currently scheduled to expire on December 31, 1996, until EPA adopts revised purity requirements. EPA initially extended these requirements in response to requests from the air-conditioning and refrigeration industry to avoid widespread contamination of the stock of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) and hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) refrigerants that could result from the lapse of the purity standard. Such contamination would cause extensive damage to air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment, release of refrigerants, and refrigerant shortages with consequent price increases.

EPA proposed a more flexible approach to ensuring the purity of refrigerants on February 29, 1996, and solicited public comment. EPA received significant comments regarding the potential delegation of authority and the unintentional creation of a monopoly. EPA believes prior to adopting a more flexible approach EPA must further consider these comments. EPA intends to issue a supplemental proposal that would revise several aspects of the February 29, 1996 proposal.

Today EPA is proposing to extend the current reclamation requirements. This continuation will not result in any additional burden on the regulated community. Moreover, the retention of the reclamation requirement will protect the environment, public health, and

consumers by ensuring that contaminated refrigerants are not vented or charged into equipment.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 2, 1996 unless a public hearing is held. A public hearing, if requested, will be held in Washington, DC. If such a hearing is requested, it will be held on November 12, 1996 at 9 a.m. Anyone who wishes to request a hearing should call Cindy Newberg at 202/233-9729 by November 8, 1996. If a public hearing is held, the comment period will be extended until December 16, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments and materials supporting this rulemaking are contained in Public Docket No. A-92-01, Waterside Mall (Ground Floor) Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, D.C. 20460 in room M-1500. Dockets may be inspected from 8:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. A reasonable fee may be charged for copying docket materials. Comments on this action should be addressed to Public Docket No. A 92-01 VIII.L at the above address.

If a public hearing is held, it will be held at the Washington Information Center, Headquarters Services, Waterside Mall (ground floor) 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cindy Newberg, Program Implementation Branch, Stratospheric Protection Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs, Office of Air and Radiation (6205-J), 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202)233-9729. The Stratospheric Ozone Information Hotline at 1-800-296-1996 can also be contacted for further information. Interested persons may contact the Stratospheric Protection Hotline to learn if a hearing will be held and to obtain the date and location of any hearing. Any hearing will be strictly limited to the subject matter of this proposal.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The contents of this preamble are listed in the following outline:

- I. Regulated Entities
- II. Overview
- III. Background
- VI. Today's Action
- V. Summary of Support Analysis

I. Regulated Entities

Entities potentially regulated by this action are those that wish to recover, recycle, reclaim, sell, or distribute in interstate commerce refrigerants that contain chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and/or hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs). Regulated categories and entities include:

Category	Example of regulated entities
Industry	Reclaimers. Equipment manufacturers. Air-conditioning and refrigeration contractors and technicians. Owners and operators of industrial process refrigeration equipment. Laboratories. Plumbing, heating and cooling contractors.

This table is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be regulated by this action. This table lists the types of entities that EPA is now aware could potentially be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in the table could also be affected. To determine whether your company is regulated by this action, you should carefully examine the applicability criteria contained in Section 608 of the Clean Air Amendments of 1990; discussed in regulations published on May 14, 1993 (59 FR 28660); and discussed below. If you have questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed in the preceding **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

II. Overview

Paragraphs 82.154(g) and (h) of 40 CFR part 82, subpart F set requirements for sale of used refrigerant, mandating that it meet certain purity standards. These requirements will expire on December 31, 1996. EPA is considering whether it is appropriate to promulgate new, more flexible, requirements based on industry guidelines. To that end, EPA issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on February 29, 1996 (61 FR 7858) that addressed various issues including the adoption of a more flexible approach to reclamation. EPA has analyzed the public comments. EPA will issue a final rulemaking soon; however, EPA has decided not to complete promulgation of all the proposed changes discussed in that NPRM as part of one final rulemaking.

The February 29, 1996, NPRM was an omnibus notice that addressed many aspects of 40 CFR Part 82, Subpart F. Amongst the various issues considered in that NPRM is the adoption of a more flexible approach to reclamation with the related adoption of third-party certification for laboratories and reclaimers. Other issues addressed in the NPRM include changes to the recordkeeping and reporting requirements for technician certification programs, the adoption of an updated