

1999 model year, the Administrator may accept an OBD system as compliant even though specific requirements are not fully met. Such waivers or compliances without meeting specific requirements will be granted only if compliance would be infeasible or unreasonable considering such factors as, but not limited to, technical feasibility, lead time and production cycles including phase-in or phase-out of engines or vehicle designs and programmed upgrades of computers, and if any unmet requirements are not carried over from the previous model year except where unreasonable hardware modifications would be necessary to correct the non-compliance, and the manufacturer has demonstrated an acceptable level of effort toward compliance as determined by the Administrator. For alternate fueled vehicles (i.e. natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, or methanol), beginning with the model year for which alternate fuel emission standards are applicable and extending through the 1999 model year, manufacturers may request the Administrator to waive specific monitoring requirements of this section for which monitoring may not be reliable with respect to the use of the alternate fuel. At a minimum, all vehicles covered by this section, including those receiving a waiver as described in this paragraph, shall be equipped with an OBD system meeting either the California OBD I requirements, or some acceptable portion of the California OBD II or federal OBD requirements as specified in this section, except that for the 1994 and 1995 model years EPA may grant a waiver to a system less than OBD I giving consideration to such factors as manufacturer projections of very low sales volume for an engine family (e.g., 5000 or less), scheduled phase-out of significant engine technology with the 1994 or 1995 model years for that engine family, and whether or not the engine, or any similar engine within the manufacturer's product line, has ever been equipped with an OBD I or similar OBD system.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### 40 CFR Part 180

[FRL-5965-3]

#### Technical Amendments to Dried Fermentation Solids and Solubles of *Myrothecium Verrucaria*; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance on All Food Crops and Ornamentals; Correction of Effective Date Under Congressional Review Act (CRA)

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Final rule; correction of effective date under CRA.

**SUMMARY:** On November 14, 1996 (61 FR 58331), the Environmental Protection Agency published in the **Federal Register** a final rule amending a final rule which established an exemption from the requirement of a tolerance for dried fermentation solids and solubles of *myrothecium verrucaria* on all food crops and ornamentals. The rule established an effective date of November 14, 1996. This document corrects the effective date of the November 14, 1996 amendment to February 17, 1998 to be consistent with sections 801 and 808 of the Congressional Review Act (CRA), enacted as part of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 and 808.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This rule is effective on February 17, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Angela Hofmann, (202) 260-2922.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

Section 801 of the CRA precludes a rule from taking effect until the agency promulgating the rule submits a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of Congress and to the Comptroller General of the General Accounting Office (GAO). EPA recently discovered that it had inadvertently failed to submit the above rule as required; thus, although the rule was promulgated on November 14, 1996 (61 FR 58331), by operation of law, the rule did not take effect on November 14, 1996, as stated therein. Now that EPA has discovered its error, the rule is being submitted to both Houses of Congress and the GAO. This document amends the effective date of the rule consistent with the provisions of the CRA.

Section 408(e)(2) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a(e)(2), provides that the Administrator, before issuing a final

rule under section 408(e)(1), shall issue a proposed rule and allow 60 days for public comment unless the Administrator for good cause finds that it would be in the public interest to provide a shorter period. EPA has determined that there is good cause for making today's rule final without prior proposal and opportunity for comment because EPA merely is correcting the effective date of the promulgated rule to be consistent with the congressional review requirements of the Congressional Review Act as a matter of law and has no discretion in this matter. Thus, notice and public procedure are unnecessary. The Agency finds that this constitutes good cause under section 408(e)(2). Moreover, since today's action does not create any new regulatory requirements and affected parties have known of the underlying rule since November 14, 1996, EPA finds that good cause exists to provide for an immediate effective date pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) and 808(2). Under section 408(g)(1) of FFDCA today's rule is effective upon publication. Because the delay in the effective date was caused by EPA's inadvertent failure to submit the rule under the CRA, EPA does not believe that affected entities that acted in good faith, relying upon the effective date stated in the November 14, 1996 **Federal Register**, should be penalized if they were complying with the rule as promulgated.

##### II. Administrative Requirements

Under Executive Order 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993), this action is not a "significant regulatory action" and is therefore not subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget. In addition, this action does not impose any enforceable duty or contain any unfunded mandate as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-4), or require prior consultation with State officials as specified by Executive Order 12875 (58 FR 58093, October 28, 1993), or involve special consideration of environmental justice related issues as required by Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994). Because this action is not subject to notice-and-comment requirements under the Administrative Procedure Act or any other statute, it is not subject to the regulatory flexibility provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*). EPA's compliance with these statutes and Executive Orders for the underlying rule is discussed in the November 14, 1996, **Federal Register** document.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A), as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, EPA

will submit a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives and the Comptroller General of the General Accounting Office; however, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 808(2), this rule is effective on February 17, 1998. This rule is not a "major rule" as defined in 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

This final rule only amends the effective date of the underlying rule; it does not amend any substantive requirements contained in the rule. Accordingly, objections, hearing requests, and judicial review are limited to the amended effective date. Procedures for filing objections to and requests for hearings on this amendment are described in the November 14, 1996, **Federal Register** document.

Dated: February 6, 1998.

**Carol Browner,**  
*Administrator.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Research and Special Programs Administration

#### 49 CFR Parts 190, 191, 192, 193, 195, and 199

[Docket No. RSPA-97-2251; Amdt Nos. 190-7; 191-13; 192-83; 193-15; 194-2; 195-61; 198-3; 199-17.]

RIN 2137-AD03

#### Pipeline Safety: Periodic Updates to Pipeline Safety Regulations (1997)

**AGENCY:** Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Direct final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This final rule is part of an annual effort by OPS to improve safety by clarifying and updating the pipeline safety regulations. Revisions include updated references to voluntary specifications and standards incorporated by reference, and various clarifications and grammatical corrections. These updates reflect the most recent editions of each specification and standard incorporated by reference to enable pipeline operators to utilize current technology, materials, and practices. In addition, certain gender-specific terms have been replaced with gender-neutral terms. Consistent with the President's goals of regulatory reinvention and improvement of customer service, this final rule updates the pipeline safety

regulations for 1997, thereby reducing costs and enhancing economic growth.

**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This direct final rule takes effect May 4, 1998. The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the rule is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of May 4, 1998. If RSPA does not receive any adverse comment or notice of intent to file an adverse comment by March 19, 1998 the rule will become effective on the date specified. RSPA will issue a subsequent notice in the **Federal Register** by April 20, 1998 after the close of the comment period to confirm that fact and reiterate the effective date. If an adverse comment or notice of intent to file an adverse comment is received, RSPA will issue a timely notice in the **Federal Register** to confirm that fact and RSPA would withdraw the direct final rule in whole or in part. RSPA may then incorporate the adverse comment into a subsequent direct final rule or may publish a notice of proposed rulemaking.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to the Dockets Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Comments should identify the docket number (RSPA-97-2251). Persons should submit the original document and one (1) copy. Persons wishing to receive confirmation of receipt of their comments must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard. The Dockets Facility is located on the plaza level of the Nassif Building in Room Number 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC. The Dockets Facility is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays when the facility is closed.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Eben M. Wyman, (202) 366-0918, or by e-mail (eben.wyman@rspa.dot.gov), regarding the subject matter of this Notice; or the Dockets Unit, (202) 366-4453, for copies of this final rule or other material in the docket. Further information can be obtained by accessing OPS' Internet Home Page at: ops.dot.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

In a March 1995 memorandum, President Clinton directed Federal regulatory agencies to, among other things, conduct a page-by-page review of all agency regulations, cutting or revising those that were obsolete, intrusive, or better handled by parties other than the Federal government (i.e.,

private business, State, or local government).

In response to the President's directive, RSPA issued a final rule on May 24, 1996 (61 FR 26121) that updated references to voluntary specifications and standards. This rulemaking is the second annual update of the pipeline safety regulations to reduce unnecessary burdens on the regulated community and to ensure that the pipeline safety regulations incorporate the most current technical standards and specifications.

#### Incorporation by Reference

RSPA is incorporating by reference all or portions of nine updated documents containing practices, codes, standards, and specifications developed and published by technical organizations, including the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, American Society for Testing and Materials, Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry, and National Fire Protection Association. The updated standards incorporate the latest technology and engineering practice. Adoption of these updated documents assures that pipeline operators will not be unnecessarily burdened with outdated materials, design, and construction requirements.

These documents can be obtained by contacting the following organizations:

1. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428.
2. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), United Engineering Center, 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017.
3. Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry, Inc. (MSS), 127 Park Street, NW, Vienna, VA 22180.
4. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101.

These documents are available for inspection at the following locations:

1. Office of Pipeline Safety, room 2335, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590.
2. Office of the **Federal Register**, 800 N. Capitol Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20408.

#### Other revisions

##### Clarifications

This document amends the following pipeline safety regulations to clarify their meaning:

1. Section 192.16(b)(5) states that "The operator (if applicable), plumbers,