FACT SHEET

SUPPLEMENTAL PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE AIR TOXICS STANDARDS FOR SECONDARY ALUMINUM PRODUCTION

ACTION

- On November 13, 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed supplemental amendments to the air toxics emissions standards covering the Secondary Aluminum Production source category. Air toxics, also known as hazardous air pollutants (HAP) are known or suspected to cause cancer and other serious health problems.

- These proposed amendments supplement EPA's February 2012 proposal addressing air toxics emissions from these facilities.

- Secondary aluminum production facilities produce aluminum from scrap aluminum material and consists of the following operations: (1) preprocessing of scrap aluminum, including size reduction and removal of oils, coatings and other contaminants; (2) furnace operations, including melting, in-furnace refining, fluxing and tapping; (3) additional refining; and (4) cooling. The current secondary aluminum air toxics standards apply to approximately 161 facilities.

- After the publication of the February 2012 proposal and taking into account comments from stakeholders, EPA revised its cost estimates for the installation of temporary hooding and made some minor changes to the proposed requirements. EPA also conducted a refined multipathway risk assessment and updated the "ample margin of safety" analysis based on new data received from industry.

- This supplemental proposal would:
    - Establish work practices (as an alternative for installing hooding) for round top furnaces and for other furnaces demonstrating they cannot construct temporary hooding;
    - Allow facilities to change furnace classification types four times per 6-month period, to provide more flexibility to industry while maintaining the enforceability of this requirement;
    - Extend the compliance deadline for testing requirements from 90 days to 2 years;
    - Define startup and shutdown and establish an alternative method for demonstrating compliance with emission limits during these events;
    - Establish operating and monitoring requirements for sweat furnaces as well as other minor monitoring revisions; and
    - Remove the affirmative defense provision.

- Some provisions would take effect upon publication and other provisions would require compliance within 2 years.

- The EPA will accept comment on the proposal for 45 days after publication in the *Federal Register*.

Technology Review

- The Clean Air Act requires the EPA to review and revise air toxics standards, as necessary, taking into account developments in practices, processes and control technologies since EPA issued the standards.
- During the technology review, the EPA did not identify any new developments in practices, processes or control technologies that are applicable to this source category.

Residual Risk Assessment

- The Clean Air Act requires the EPA to assess the risk remaining after application of the air toxic standards. This is known as a residual risk assessment.
- The residual risk assessment includes the following analyses:
  - Estimates of individual source category risk.
  - Analysis of air toxics related risks across different social, demographic and economic groups living near the facilities.
  - Risk estimates based on the actual emissions reported as emitted.
  - Risk estimates based on emissions allowed by the current air toxics standard.
- In the 2012 proposal, EPA determined that risks were acceptable based on an estimated maximum individual cancer risk of less than 1-in-1 million due to inhalation.
- For this supplemental proposal, EPA conducted a more refined multipathway analysis that confirms the potential risks from dioxins are acceptable (e.g., cancer risks due to multipathway exposures are less than 70-in-1 million) and that public health is protected with an ample margin of safety.

BACKGROUND

- The Clean Air Act requires the EPA to regulate hazardous air pollutants from large industrial facilities in two phases.
- The first phase is "technology-based," where the EPA develops standards for controlling the emissions of air toxics from sources in an industry group (or "source category"). These maximum achievable control technology (MACT) standards are based on emissions levels that are already being achieved by the controlled and low-emitting sources in an industry.
- Within 8 years of setting the MACT standards, the Clean Air Act directs the EPA to assess the remaining health risks from each source category to determine whether the MACT standards protect public health with an ample margin of safety, and protect against adverse environmental effects. This second phase is a "risk-based" approach called residual risk. Here, the EPA must determine whether more health-protective standards are necessary.
- Also, every 8 years after setting the MACT standards, the Clean Air Act requires that the

EPA review and revise the MACT standards, if necessary, to account for improvements in air pollution controls and/or prevention.

- The previously-issued air toxic standards for these production processes are part of 96 air toxic standards that require 174 industry sectors to eliminate 1.7 million tons of 187 toxic air pollutants. Congress listed these toxic air pollutants in the Clean Air Act.

HOW TO COMMENT

- Comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0544, may be submitted by one of the following methods:
  - Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
  - Email: A-and-R-Docket@epa.gov. Include Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0544 in the subject line of the message.
  - Fax: (202) 566-9744, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0544.
  - Mail: Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Mail Code 28221T, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0544, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460. Please include a total of two copies. In addition, please mail a copy of your comments on the information collection provisions to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attn: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503.
  - Hand/Courier Delivery: EPA Docket Center, Room 3334, EPA WJC West Building, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0544. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Interested parties can download the notice from the EPA's web site at the following address: http://www.epa.gov/ttn/atw/alum2nd/alum2pg.html.

- Today's proposed rule and other background information are also available either electronically at http://www.regulations.gov, the EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, or in hardcopy at the EPA Docket Center's Public Reading Room.
  - The Public Reading Room is located in the EPA Headquarters Library, Room Number 3334 in the EPA WJC West Building, located at 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern standard time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.
  - Visitors are required to show photographic identification, pass through a metal detector, and sign the EPA visitor log. All visitor materials will be processed through an X-ray machine as well. Visitors will be provided a badge that must be visible at all times.
  - Materials for this proposed action can be accessed using Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0544.

- For further information, contact Rochelle Boyd of the EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards by phone at (919) 541-1390, or by email at: boyd.rochelle@epa.gov.