

Date: June 30, 2008

Subject: New Source Projections for HMIWI Population

EPA Contract No. EP-D-06-118; Work Assignment No. 2-03; SPPD No. 02/30

RTI Project No. 0210426.002.003

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I. Background

Regulations to reduce emissions from hospital/medical/infectious waste incinerators (HMIWI) were published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on September 15, 1997 and remanded by the Court on March 2, 1999. The regulations were remanded by the Court due to questions about the methodology and approach that EPA used to develop the regulations. On February 6, 2007, EPA published a proposal that responded to the questions raised in the Court's remand. However, recent Court decisions that impact that proposal, as well as issues raised in the public comments regarding the proposal, necessitate a re-proposal of responses to the questions raised in the Court's remand and a re-development of the HMIWI regulation.

In order to estimate the impacts of a re-developed regulation for new HMIWI, a projection of new sources over a 5-year period (2009-2013) must be conducted. These new sources are defined as those expected to begin operation in the absence of a re-developed regulation. The projection will be based on historical trends, i.e., the number of new HMIWI that have begun operation in the past several years. Table 1 lists all HMIWI installed since proposal of the original HMIWI regulation on June 20, 2006. As noted in Table 1, two large, one medium, and one small HMIWI have been installed over the past 10 years (1999-2008), and another small HMWI is expected to be installed later in 2008.

Using this historical information, it is projected that, in the absence of a re-developed HMIWI regulation, 50 percent as many HMIWI will begin operation over the next 5 years (2009-2013), which is estimated to be one large, one medium (rounded up from ½), and one small HMIWI. The future population of HMIWI is assumed to remain constant, with the new HMIWI replacing existing HMIWI that are shut down during this 5-year period.

Table 1. HMIWI Installed Since Proposal of Original HMIWI Regulation

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Year				HMIWI
installed	Facility name	City	State	size
1996	East Carolina University, HSC Utility Plant	Greenville	NC	Large
1999	Wilkes-Barre General Hospital	Wilkes-	PA	Medium
		Barre		
2001	Municipality of Chambers County, Resource	Anahuac	TX	Large
	Recovery Center, Unit 1			
2001	Municipality of Chambers County, Resource	Anahuac	TX	Large
	Recovery Center, Unit 2			
2006	Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Unit 3	Atlanta	GA	Small
2008	Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Unit 4	Atlanta	GA	Small
	(to be installed later in 2008)			

Note: The HMIWI at East Carolina University was installed more than 10 years ago, so it was not included in the analysis.