



Environmental Fact Sheet

REGULATIONS FOR BURNING HAZARDOUS WASTE IN BOILERS AND INDUSTRIAL FURNACES CLARIFIED

EPA is amending the regulations governing the burning of hazardous waste in Boilers and Industrial Furnaces (BIF). These clarifications provide guidance and correct unintended consequences of the rule.

Background

On February 21, 1991, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a final rule that expands controls on hazardous waste combustion by regulating air emissions from the burning of hazardous waste in boilers and industrial furnaces (BIF). In particular, the rule controls emissions of toxic organic compounds, toxic metals, hydrogen chloride, chlorine gas, and particulate matter from those boilers and industrial furnaces burning hazardous waste. In addition, the rule subjects owners and operators of these devices to the general facility standards applicable to hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities.

After publication of the final rule, EPA received many questions requesting clarification on certain provisions of the rule. A technical amendment to the final boiler and industrial furnace rule was published on August 27, 1991, to clarify the operation of the regulation and to correct certain unintended consequences.

As facilities began to comply with the BIF regulations, EPA received additional questions about the way various provisions of the rule are intended to work.



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Action

EPA is issuing an additional technical amendment to address these questions and clarify EPA's intent with the BIF regulations. The clarifications incorporated into the rule are:

- The definition of baseline hydrocarbon (HC) level for industrial furnaces complying with the alternative HC limit is clarified to require consideration of process variability.
- Industrial furnaces complying with the alternative HC limit may comply with the interim HC limit using a conditioned gas HC monitoring system if they demonstrate that a heated system is impracticable.
- Industrial furnaces that cannot comply with the 20 ppmv HC limit by August 21, 1992, may apply for a case-by-case time extension to make physical changes to the facility in order to comply with that HC limit.
- The metals and total chlorine feed rate operating limits for Tier I and adjusted Tier I are based on screening limits, not the compliance test.
- Adjusted Tier I feed rate screening limits may be used in dispersion situations where the Tier I and Tier II screening limits are precluded.
- Several requirements are clarified to account for facilities that comply with adjusted Tier I limits.
- BIF storage units are subject to the air emissions standards of Subparts AA and BB of Parts 264 and 265.
- The definition of plasma arc and infrared incinerators are clarified to include only those devices that use an afterburner.
- Facilities that comply with the Tier I and Tier I metals and chlorine and chlorine controls and that have uncontrolled emissions that meet the particulate matter standard need not establish a limit on production rate during interim status.