

POTPOURRI NOTICE

Department of Environmental Quality Office of Environmental Assessment Environmental Planning Division

Solicitation of Comments on Fugitive Emission Reductions of Volatile Organic Compounds for Ozone Control (LAC 33:III.2122) (0011Pot1)

Louisiana has experienced many days of elevated ozone levels this summer throughout the state and especially in the Baton Rouge area as a number of the monitored readings have exceeded the one-hour standard. In addition, the 5-parish Baton Rouge ozone non-attainment area, which includes the parishes of Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge, did not meet the 1999 statutory deadline to comply with the one-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). Therefore, identification and promulgation of regulations to implement emission reduction controls is necessary by August 15, 2001.

The LDEQ is preparing a revision to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) that will specify emission reduction control strategies so that Louisiana can comply with the NAAQS standard. Rules to implement emission reduction controls for inclusion in the SIP must be promulgated. In accordance with R.S. 49:953 of the Administrative Procedure Act, any proposed rule must include a Fiscal and Economic Impact Statement. Further, the LDEQ is required, by R.S. 30:2019(D) and R.S. 49:953(G) to perform a cost/benefit and risk analysis if a rule has a fiscal impact of \$1 million or more and is not required for compliance with a federal law or regulation.

The LDEQ is considering lowering the leak limitations for fugitive emissions of volatile organic compounds from 1,000 ppmv to 500 ppmv. The LDEQ is also considering statewide applicability of this requirement.

The LDEQ requests all interested parties submit information to the Department for consideration prior to rulemaking. The LDEQ specifically requests responders to address the following questions:

1. What are the expected environmental benefits and/or disbenefits of the rule options under consideration? Respondent should address the potential environmental impact on all media (air, water, etc.), if air emissions controls would result in adverse impacts on other media.
2. What is the potential manufacturing/retrofit/new control equipment costs for the rules under consideration?
3. What should be the geographic applicability areas for the options under consideration if not statewide?
4. Any other information the responder desires to be in the record.

Should the LDEQ propose a rule to implement new or revised existing VOC controls, the public will have an additional opportunity to comment during the rulemaking process.

Comments are due no later than 4:30 p.m. CST on Friday, December 15, 2000, and should be submitted to Ms. Patsy Deaville, Regulation Development Section, Box 82178, Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2178 or hand-delivered to 7290 Bluebonnet Boulevard, Fourth Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70810 or faxed to (225) 765-5095. Persons commenting should reference this document as “Fugitive Emission Reductions of Volatile Organic Compounds for Ozone Control.”

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