

FACT SHEET

REVISION OF SOURCE CATEGORY LIST FOR AIR TOXICS STANDARDS; AND FINAL RULE TO REGULATE AIR TOXICS EMISSIONS FROM AREA SOURCE ALUMINUM, COPPER, AND OTHER NONFERROUS FOUNDRIES

ACTION

- On June 15, 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized air toxics standards for smaller emitting aluminum foundries, copper foundries, and other nonferrous foundries.
- Smaller emitting facilities are called area sources. Area sources are those that do not emit or have the potential to emit more than 10 tons per year of a single toxic air pollutant or more than 25 tons per year of any combination of toxic air pollutants.
- EPA also revised the area source category list by changing the name of the “Secondary Aluminum Production” category to “Aluminum Foundries” and the “Nonferrous Foundries, not elsewhere classified” category to “Other Nonferrous Foundries.”
- The final rule will regulate emissions of a number of toxic air pollutants, such as beryllium, cadmium, chromium, lead, manganese, and nickel, which are known or suspected to cause cancer, other serious health problems and environmental damage.
- Foundries that melt 600 tons per year or greater of metal are subject to the rule and will be required to:
 - cover or enclose melting furnaces during the melting process,
 - purchase scrap that has been depleted of hazardous metals to the extent possible, and
 - prepare and operate according to a written management practices plan.
- In addition to the requirements above, copper and other nonferrous foundries that melt 6,000 tons per year or greater of copper or other nonferrous metal will be required to comply with an emission limit of 0.015 grains per dry standard cubic foot (gr/dscf) of particulate matter (PM) for existing melting operations or 0.010 gr/dscf of PM for new melting operations. The alternative compliance option will allow these foundries to route PM emissions from the melting furnace through a PM control device that achieves a control efficiency of at least 95 percent for existing melting operations or at least 99 percent for new melting operations.
- Most of the facilities in these source categories are small businesses. EPA estimates that the final rule will apply to approximately 318 out of an estimated total of 962 area source aluminum, copper, and other nonferrous foundries. The final rule will have a total

annualized cost of \$638,000/yr, (an average of \$2,000 per facility) with no significant adverse economic impacts on large or small foundries.

- Existing area sources that will be affected by the rule are generally well controlled as a result of state permitting requirements, Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations (particularly for lead) and efficiency improvements.

BACKGROUND

- The Clean Air Act requires EPA to identify categories of industrial or business sources that emit one or more of 187 listed toxic air pollutants. These industrial categories include both major and area sources.
- The Clean Air Act requires EPA to identify the toxic air pollutants that pose a health threat in the largest number of urban areas and to regulate sufficient area source categories to ensure that the emissions of these “urban” air toxics are reduced. EPA implements these requirements through the Integrated Urban Air Toxics Strategy.
- Each of the source categories included in today’s final rule is included on the area source category list.
- The Clean Air Act allows EPA to promulgate standards for area sources based on the maximum achievable control technology or generally available control technology or management practices (GACT). The final standards for these source categories are based on GACT.
- The final air toxics rule is being developed in response to the requirements in section 112(k) of the Clean Air Act and is being issued at this time in response to a court order that directs EPA to issue final rules for area sources every six months.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- To download a copy the final rule, go to <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3pfpr.html>.
- For further information about the final rule for aluminum foundries, contact Mr. David Cole of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5565 or Cole.David@epa.gov. For further information about the proposed rule for copper foundries and other nonferrous foundries, contact Mr. Gary Blais of EPA’s Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-3223 or Blais.Gary@epa.gov.