



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

Bureau of Air Quality

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTROL OF FINE
PARTICULATE MATTER IN THE NONATTAINMENT NEW
SOURCE REVIEW PROGRAM**

25 Pa. Code Chapters 121 and 127
49 Pa.B. 1146 (March 16, 2019)
Environmental Quality Board Regulation #7-551
(Independent Regulatory Review Commission #3225)

Comment and Response Document

Additional Requirements for Control of Fine Particulate Matter in the Nonattainment New Source Review Program

On March 16, 2019, the Environmental Quality Board (Board or EQB) published a *Pennsylvania Bulletin* notice of public hearings and written comment period on the proposed amendments to Chapters 121 and 127, Subchapters E and H (relating to general provisions; new source review; and general plan approvals and operating permits) (49 Pa.B. 1146). The proposed rulemaking would incorporate recently promulgated Federal requirements for the regulation of volatile organic compounds (VOC) and ammonia as precursor emissions to the formation of fine particulate matter. The proposed rulemaking would also revise the application submission options for the use of plan approvals and operating permits for portable sources in § 127.641(c).

The public comment period opened on March 16, 2019, and closed on May 20, 2019. Three public hearings were held on the proposed rulemaking as follows:

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| April 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. | Department of Environmental Protection Southcentral Regional Office Susquehanna Room A 909 Elmerton Avenue Harrisburg, PA 17110 |
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| April 17, 2019 1:00 p.m. | Department of Environmental Protection Southwest Regional Office Waterfront Conference Room A 400 Waterfront Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15222 |
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| April 18, 2019 1:00 p.m. | Department of Environmental Protection Southeast Regional Office Delaware River Room 2 East Main Street Norristown, PA 19401 |
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This document summarizes the written comments received during the public comment period. No one provided testimony during the public hearings. On June 19, 2019, the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) submitted a letter of no objections, comments, or recommendations to the Board. No written comments were received from the Senate or House Environmental Resources and Energy Committees. Each comment is listed with an identifying number for each commenter that made the comment. A list of the commenters, including name and affiliation, can be found below.

The rulemaking will be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval as a revision to the Commonwealth's State Implementation Plan (SIP) upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* as a final-form regulation.

Copies of all comments received are posted on the IRRC web site at <http://www.irrc.state.pa.us>. Search by Regulation # 7-551 or IRRC # 3225.

Table of Commenters to the Environmental Quality Board

| ID | Name/Address |
|-----------|---|
| 1. | Jennifer McKenna Clean Air Board of Central PA 528 Garland Drive Carlisle, PA 17013 |
| 2. | Candra Ledes 300 2 nd Street Uniontown, PA 15401 |
| 3. | D. Fran 55 5 th Avenue Uniontown, PA 15401 |
| 4. | David Sumner, Executive Director Independent Regulatory Review Commission 333 Market Street, 14th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101 |

Acronyms used in this Comment and Response Document

EPA – United States Environmental Protection Agency
EQB – Environmental Quality Board
IRRC – Independent Regulatory Review Commission
PM_{2.5} – Fine particulate matter 2.5 microns in size or less
SIP – State Implementation Plan
VOC – Volatile Organic Compound

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

General Support of Proposed Rulemaking

1. Comment: A commenter supported the measures contained in the proposed rulemaking because it incorporates recently promulgated federal requirements recognizing that emissions of VOC and ammonia are PM_{2.5} precursors. (1)

Response: The Department thanks the commenter for their support of this rulemaking.

IRRC Criteria

2. Comment. The IRRC submitted a letter stating that it has no objections, comments, or recommendations to offer on the rulemaking. If the Board delivers the final-form regulation without revisions, and the committees do not take any action, it will be deemed approved. (4)

Response: The Department acknowledges IRRC's letter of no comment.

General Air Quality Comments

3. Comment: Two commenters made general comments proposing ways to improve air quality. (2, 3)

Response: The Department acknowledges the commenter's concerns and suggestions; however, the comments are beyond the scope of this rulemaking.