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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Bureau of Air Quality



# **Proposed Rulemaking: Corrections to Additional RACT Requirements for Major Sources of NO<sub>x</sub> and VOCs for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS (RACT 3)**

Environmental Quality Board Meeting  
November 12, 2024

Josh Shapiro, Governor

Jessica Shirley, Acting Secretary

# Purpose

- Correct administrative errors in § 129.115 of RACT 3 regulation
  - Subsection (c) – errors in optional alternative compliance demonstration method for natural gas power plants
  - Subsection (d) – cross-reference error



# Background

- RACT 3 regulatory requirements include:
  - § 129.112(g)(2)(iii) - presumptive RACT emission limitations for natural gas power plants
  - § 129.115(c) - an optional alternative compliance demonstration method for natural gas power plants to comply with § 129.112(g)(2)(iii)
  - § 129.115(d) - other compliance demonstration requirements



# Correction to § 129.115(c)

- Replace the mass-equivalent basis factors for NO<sub>x</sub> and VOCs in paragraphs (2)—(4) with figures that are:
  - Correctly calculated
  - Correlated with the presumptive limits for NO<sub>x</sub> and VOCs set in clauses (B)—(D) of § 129.112(g)(2)(iii)



## Correction to § 129.115(d)

- Regulation currently requires owners and operators of sources subject to § 129.112 to demonstrate compliance by using the **notification** procedures in § 129.115(a)
- Would correct cross-reference to demonstrate compliance by using the **monitoring and testing** procedures in § 129.115(b)



# Impacts

- The corrections are not expected to:
  - Increase or decrease emissions of the regulated air pollutants.
  - Change environmental protection outcomes.
  - Impose new compliance obligations, compliance costs, or other adverse effects.



# Affected Parties

- Owners and operators of 17 natural gas-fired power plants may opt to use the alternative method.
- To date, no affected parties have requested to use the optional alternative compliance demonstration method.



# Advisory Committee Review

- The following advisory committees were consulted on this proposed rulemaking:
  - Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee on April 4, 2024
  - Citizens Advisory Council on May 14, 2024
- Small Business Compliance Advisory Committee not consulted as no small businesses affected



# Recommendation

- The Department recommends the Board adopt this proposed regulation to correct administrative errors.
- A 60-day public comment period is recommended, with three public hearings to be held at DEP regional offices in Norristown, Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, PA.





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