

California Air Resources Board,
Stationary Source Division, Rule
Evaluation Section, 2020 "L" Street,
Sacramento, CA 95814.

Placer County Air Pollution Control
District, 11464 B Avenue, Auburn, CA
95603.

Ventura County Air Pollution Control
District, 669 County Square Drive,
Ventura, CA 93003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Applicability

The rules being proposed for approval into the California SIP include: Placer County Air Pollution Control District's (PCAPCD) Rule 250, "Stationary Gas Turbines," and Ventura County Air Pollution Control District's (VCAPCD) Rule 74.9, "Stationary Internal Combustion Engines." These rules were submitted by the California Air Resources Board (ARB) to EPA on March 29, 1994 (Rule 74.9) and October 19, 1994 (Rule 250).

Background

On November 15, 1990, the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAA) were enacted. Public Law 101-549, 104 Stat. 2399, codified at 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q. The air quality planning requirements for the reduction of NO_x emissions through reasonably available control technology (RACT) are set out in section 182(f) of the CAA. On November 25, 1992, EPA published a NPRM entitled, "State Implementation Plans; Nitrogen Oxides Supplement to the General Preamble; Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 Implementation of Title I; Proposed Rule," (the NO_x Supplement) which describes the requirements of section 182(f). The NO_x Supplement should be referred to for further information on the NO_x requirements and is incorporated into this document by reference.

Section 182(f) of the Clean Air Act requires States to apply the same requirements to major stationary sources of NO_x ("major" as defined in section 302 and section 182(c), (d), and (e)) as are applied to major stationary sources of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), in moderate or above ozone nonattainment areas. The Placer County part of the Sacramento Metro Area is classified as serious, and the Ventura

County area is classified as severe;¹ therefore these areas were subject to the RACT requirements of section 182(b)(2), cited below, and the November 15, 1992 deadline.

Section 182(b)(2) requires submittal of RACT rules for major stationary sources of VOC emissions (not covered by a pre-enactment control technologies guidelines (CTG) document or a post-enactment CTG document) by November 15, 1992. There were no NO_x CTGs issued before enactment and EPA has not issued a CTG document for any NO_x sources since enactment of the CAA. The RACT rules covering NO_x sources and submitted as SIP revisions are expected to require final installation of the actual NO_x controls by May 31, 1995, for those sources where installation by that date is practicable.

This document addresses EPA's proposed action for PCAPCD's Rule 250, "Stationary Gas Turbines," and VCAPCD's Rule 74.9, "Stationary Internal Combustion Engines." Rule 250 was adopted by the PCAPCD on October 17, 1994, and Rule 74.9 was adopted by the VCAPCD on December 21, 1993. These submitted rules were found to be complete on June 3, 1994 (Rule 74.9) and October 21, 1994 (Rule 250) pursuant of EPA's completeness criteria that are set forth in 40 CFR part 51, appendix V² and are being proposed for approval into the SIP.

NO_x emissions contribute to the production of ground level ozone and smog. Rule 250 controls NO_x emission from gas turbines, and Rule 74.9 controls NO_x, carbon monoxide (CO), and VOC emissions from internal combustion engines. The rules were adopted as part of PCAPCD's and VCAPCD's efforts to achieve the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone and in response to the CAA requirements cited above. The following is EPA's evaluation and proposed action for these rules.

EPA Evaluation and Proposed Action

In determining the approvability of a NO_x rule, EPA must evaluate the rule for consistency with the requirements of the CAA and EPA regulations, as found in section 110, and Part D of the CAA and 40 CFR part 51 (Requirements for Preparation, Adoption and Submittal of Implementation Plans). The EPA

interpretation of these requirements, which forms the basis for this action, appears in various EPA policy guidance documents.³ Among these provisions is the requirement that a NO_x rule must, at a minimum, provide for the implementation of RACT for stationary sources of NO_x emissions.

For the purposes of assisting state and local agencies in developing NO_x RACT rules, EPA prepared the NO_x supplement to the General Preamble, cited above (57 FR 55620). In the NO_x supplement, EPA provides guidance on how RACT will be determined for stationary sources of NO_x emissions. While most of the guidance issued by EPA on what constitutes RACT for stationary sources has been directed towards application for VOC sources, much of the guidance is also applicable to RACT for stationary sources of NO_x (see section 4.5 of the NO_x Supplement). In addition, pursuant to section 183(c), EPA is issuing alternative control technique documents (ACTs), that identify alternative controls for all categories of stationary sources of NO_x. The ACT documents will provide information on control technology for stationary sources that emit or have the potential to emit 25 tons per year or more of NO_x. However, the ACTs will not establish a presumptive norm for what is considered RACT for stationary sources of NO_x. In general, the guidance documents cited above, as well as other relevant and applicable guidance documents, have been set forth to ensure that submitted NO_x RACT rules are fully enforceable and strengthen or maintain the SIP.

The California ARB has published a RACT/BARCT guidance document for gas turbines entitled, "Determination of Reasonably Available Control Technology and Best Available Retrofit Control Technology for the Control of Oxides of Nitrogen from Stationary Gas Turbines" (May 18, 1992). The guidance document defines RACT as an emission limit of 42 parts per million volume (ppmv) for gas-fired units and an emission limit of 65 ppmv for oil-fired units. BARCT for gas-fired units is defined as an emission limit of 42 ppmv for 0.3 to 2.9 Megawatt (MW) units, 25 ppmv for 2.9 to 10 MW units, 9 ppmv for units greater than 10 MW using selective catalytic reduction (SCR), and

¹ The Sacramento Metro and Ventura County areas retained their designations of nonattainment and were classified by operation of law pursuant to sections 107(d) and 181(a) upon the date of enactment of the CAA. See 56 FR 56694 (November 6, 1991).

² EPA adopted the completeness criteria on February 16, 1990 (55 FR 5830) and, pursuant to section 110(k)(1)(A) of the CAA, revised the criteria on August 26, 1991 (56 FR 42216).

³ Among other things, the pre-amendment guidance consists of those portions of the proposed Post-1987 ozone and carbon monoxide policy that concern RACT, 52 FR 45044 (November 24, 1987); "Issues Relating to VOC Regulation Cutpoints, Deficiencies, and Deviations, Clarification to Appendix D of November 24, 1987 **Federal Register Notice**" (Blue Book) (notice of availability was published in the **Federal Register** on May 25, 1988).