



Iowa Chapter May Newsletter

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RMP Rule and Guidance Update

Rule Update

EPA intends to issue an interim stay of the RMP rule effective date as it applies to flammable hydrocarbon fuels (propane, butane, ethane, propylene, and methane) stored in quantities no greater than 67,000 pounds. This stay will be issued to allow EPA to promulgate a general exemption for flammable hydrocarbon fuels stored in separate tanks not larger than 18,000 gallons. The RMP rule was initially written to regulate flammable substances stored in excess of 10,000 pounds and to require the submission of an RMP plan to EPA by June 21, 1999.

The general 18,000 gallon exemption is derived from the fact that propane is the most widely used of the listed flammables, and that under standards for propane storage, an 18,000 gallon tank can be filled to only 88% of its capacity. This places the exemption eligibility limit at 67,000 pounds. Fuel stored in interconnected tanks or tanks located in close proximity that store in aggregate more than 67,000 pounds would not be eligible for the exemption. In addition, tanks that store hydrocarbons used as a feedstock in a manufacturing process or are connected to other tanks covered by the RMP rule would not be eligible for this exemption. EPA intends for the exemption to provide relief to farms, hospitals, restaurants, and hotels, but not to industrial users, or fuel retailers and distributors.

Guidance Update

EPA has completed a new version of its Offsite Consequence Analysis Guidance for facilities subject to the RMP rule.

The guidance was generated to assist facilities with the hazard assessment component of the RMP. Changes to the guidance include chemical specific tables for determining accidental release scenario impact areas for ammonia, chlorine, and sulfur dioxide, temperature correction factors for calculations involving evaporating liquids, and additional examples of releases scenarios.

Fire 6.2 for Windows Released

The Factor Information Retrieval (FIRE) Data System was released in April as a menu-driven Windows program. FIRE contains EPA emission factors for criteria and toxic pollutants and is a valuable tool for updating operating permits, and completing emission inventories and construction permits.

This version of FIRE contains emission factors from the Fifth Edition of AP-42 through Supplement D and part of Supplement E. Also included are emission factors from all EPA SCCs through March of 1999.

A copy of this version may be obtained from www.epa.gov/ttn/chief/fire.html.

This document is available at www.epa.gov/ceppo/ap-ocgu.htm.

AWMA Annual Meeting

The 92nd AWMA Annual Meeting and Exhibition will be held in St. Louis MO June 20-24, 1999. Keynote speakers and special presenters will cover topics such as *Technology's Role in the New Millennium*, *The Urban Transformation*, *Sustaining Economic Growth in the U.S. Environmental Industry*, and *the 1999 Critical Review to Look at Mercury Measurement and Control*. For on-line registration or more information, visit www.awma.org.

Chapter Meeting Dates and Program Topics

Amana Holiday Inn, 5:00 Social, 6:00 Dinner

RSVP by Friday before meeting

Gina Facca (319) 398-7217 or

Chris Bell (319) 626-3990

Tuesday, May 11; Asbestos, CAAA Title III Update, Chapter Elections

Upcoming...

June; Golf Outing and Social