LDAR and Flare Regulatory Update

LDAR/Flare Workshop
June 15, 2011
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Regulatory Overview
First Some Background - SPPD’s Multipollutant Sector Approach

- Identifying key industrial sectors
- Developing a thorough understanding of these industries and their air pollution concerns
- Considering all emissions in developing standards – no stranded costs
- Clarifying and simplifying rules as appropriate
- Key component is standardizing rule requirements - uniform standards for:
  - control devices
  - storage vessels
  - wastewater
  - heat exchangers
  - equipment leaks
Uniform Standards Concept

- Refer to “regulated pollutant”
  - Air toxics
  - Criteria pollutants

- Focus on compliance
  - Specifications for equipment standards and work practices
  - Monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements

- Only triggered when referenced by a sector rule (MACT or NSPS)
  - Will be the “gold standard,” making referencing subpart more effective
  - Applicability determined by referencing sector rule

- Technology reviews designed to satisfy both MACT and NSPS 8-year reviews
Development of New Requirements for Flares in Control Device Uniform Standard

- Plan to revise the flare general provision requirements in the control device uniform standard
- Requirements would be applied initially to the refining and chemical sectors in future rulemakings being proposed at the end of this year
- Changes, clarifications, and new requirements under consideration:
  - Additional monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements
  - Include all gases being supplied to the flare in the Net Heating Value calculation
  - Limit over-steaming of flares
  - Create requirements for pressure assisted flares
LDAR Regulatory Update
NSPS W/VWa/GGG/GGGa
LDAR for SOCMI and Refineries

• Request for reconsideration
  - Requirements in the final rule were not proposed
• Requirements being reconsidered
  - Process Unit Definition – battery limits, property boundaries
  - Capital Expenditure Definition – retroactively triggered applicability
    (1/1/06 – 11/7/06 original construction date; 11/16/07 – commencement of physical change)
  - Allocation of Shared Storage Vessels (VV and VVa)
  - Connector Monitoring Requirements (VWa) – new requirements in the final rule with no opportunity for comment
• Reconsidered requirements are stayed
• Rule Schedule:
  - Subpart VVa will be proposed with Chemical Sector Rule in November
  - Subpart GGGa will be proposed with Refinery Sector Rule in December
  - Subparts VV/GGG will be proposed in December
Alternative Work Practice for LDAR

- Rule finalized – December 22, 2008
  - Alternative to Method 21 for leak detection
  - Use of optical gas imaging instrument
  - Covers LDAR requirements in Parts 60, 63 and 65
  - Monitoring frequency options: monthly, semi-quarterly, or bi-monthly (corresponding detection sensitivity levels (g/hr))
  - Leak: any emissions imaged by the optical gas imaging instrument

- Request for reconsideration – February 20, 2009
  - Annual Method 21 requirement
  - “Unsafe-to-Repair” issues
  - Video records storage

- Reconsideration proposal December 2011
Equipment Leaks Uniform Standards

- Chemical and Refinery sector rules (MACT and NSPS) will point to the uniform standard for applicable equipment leak standards (leak definitions, monitoring frequencies, reporting and recordkeeping)
- Standards developed using a technology review and cost effectiveness
- Standards will reduce compliance burden
- Uniform standards will be proposed August 2011
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