

Once an alternative is approved, the owner or operator shall use the alternative for the emission points or regulated sources cited in the approval and shall meet the monitoring and recordkeeping requirements of the relevant standard for all other emission points or regulated sources.

(2) If the Administrator approves the use of an alternative monitoring or recordkeeping method for a regulated source under paragraph (c) of this section, the owner or operator of such source shall continue to use the alternative monitoring or recordkeeping method unless he or she receives approval from the Administrator to use another method.

(3) If the Administrator finds reasonable grounds to dispute the results obtained by an alternative monitoring or recordkeeping method, requirement, or procedure, the Administrator may require the use of a method, requirement, or procedure specified in the relevant standard. If the results of the specified and alternative methods, requirements, or procedures do not agree, the results obtained by the specified method, requirement, or procedure shall prevail.

§ 65.8 Procedures for approval of alternative means of emission limitation.

(a) *Alternative means of emission limitation.* An owner or operator may request a determination of equivalence for an alternative means of emission limitation to the requirements of design, equipment, work practice, or operational standards of this part. If, in the judgment of the Administrator, an alternative means of emission limitation will achieve a reduction in regulated material emissions at least equivalent to the reduction in emissions from that source achieved under any design, equipment, work practice, or operational standards (but not performance standards) in this part, the Administrator will publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a notice permitting the use of the alternative means for purposes of compliance with that requirement.

(1) The notice may condition the permission on requirements related to the operation and maintenance of the alternative means.

(2) Any such notice shall be published only after public notice and an opportunity for a hearing.

(b) *Content of submittal.* (1) In order to obtain approval, any person seeking permission to use an alternative means of compliance under this section shall collect, verify, and submit to the Administrator information showing that the alternative means achieves equivalent emission reductions. An owner or operator seeking permission to use an alternative means of compliance who has not previously performed testing shall also submit a proposed test plan. If the owner or operator seeks permission to use an alternative means of compliance based on previously performed testing, they shall submit the results of that testing, a description of the procedures followed in testing or monitoring, and a description of pertinent conditions during testing or monitoring.

(2) The owner or operator who requests an alternative means of emission limitation shall submit a description of the proposed testing, monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting that will be used and the proposed basis for demonstrating compliance.

(3) For storage vessels, the owner or operator shall include the results of actual emissions tests using full-size or scale-model storage vessels that accurately collect and measure all regulated material emissions using a given control technique, and that accurately simulate wind and account for other emission variables such as temperature and barometric pressure, or an engineering analysis that the Administrator determines is an accurate method of determining equivalence.

(4) For proposed alternatives to equipment leak requirements, the owner or operator shall also submit the information and meet the requirements for alternative means of emission limitation specified in § 65.102(b) (alternative means of emission limitation).

(c) Manufacturers of equipment used to control equipment leaks of a regulated material may request a determination of equivalence for an alternative means of emission limitation for equipment leaks, as specified in § 65.102(c).

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(d) *Compliance.* If the Administrator makes a determination that a means of emission limitation is a permissible alternative to the requirements of design, equipment, work practice, or operational standards of this part, the owner or operator shall either comply with the alternative or comply with the requirements of this part.

§ 65.9 Availability of information and confidentiality.

(a) *Availability of information.* The availability to the public of information provided to, or otherwise obtained by, the Administrator under this part shall be governed by part 2 of this chapter. With the exception of information protected under part 2 of this chapter, all reports, records, and other information collected by the Administrator under this part are available to the public. In addition, a copy of each permit application, compliance plan (including the schedule of compliance), initial compliance status report, periodic report, and title V permit is available to the public, consistent with protections recognized in section 503(e) of the Act.

(b) *Confidentiality.* (1) If an owner or operator is required to submit information entitled to protection from disclosure under section 114(c) of the Act, the owner or operator may submit such information separately. The requirements of section 114(c) shall apply to such information.

(2) The contents of a title V permit shall not be entitled to protection under section 114(c) of the Act; however, information submitted as part of an application for a title V permit may be entitled to protection from disclosure.

§ 65.10 State authority.

(a) The provisions of this part shall not be construed in any manner to preclude any State or political subdivision thereof from adopting and enforcing any emission standard or limitation applicable to a regulated source, provided that such standard, limitation, prohibition, or other regulation is not less stringent than the standard applicable to such a regulated source.

(b) The provisions of this part shall not be construed in any manner to pre-

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clude any State or political subdivision thereof from requiring the owner or operator of a regulated source to obtain permits, licenses, or approvals prior to initiating construction, modification, or operation of such a regulated source.

§ 65.11 Circumvention and prohibited activities.

(a) *Circumvention.* (1) No owner or operator subject to the provisions of this part shall build, erect, install, or use any article, machine, equipment, or process to conceal an emission that would otherwise constitute noncompliance with a relevant standard. Such concealment includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) The use of diluents to achieve compliance with a relevant standard based on the concentration of a pollutant in the effluent discharged to the atmosphere; and

(2) The fragmentation of an operation for the purpose of avoiding regulation by a relevant standard.

(b) *Prohibited activities.* (1) No owner or operator subject to the provisions of this part shall operate any regulated source in violation of the requirements of this part except under the following provisions:

(i) An extension or waiver of compliance granted by the Administrator under an applicable part; or

(ii) An extension of compliance granted under an applicable part by a State with an approved permit program; or

(iii) An exemption from compliance granted by the President under section 112(i)(4) of the Act.

(2) After the effective date of an approved permit program in a State, no owner or operator of a regulated source in that State who is required under an applicable part to obtain a title V permit shall operate such source except in compliance with the provisions of this part and the applicable requirements of the permit program in that State.

(3) An owner or operator of a regulated source who is subject to an emission standard promulgated under this part or a referencing part shall comply with the requirements of that standard