

Environmental Protection Agency

§ 80.1339

under this section, including rescinding, or reducing the length of, the extended deficit carry-forward period if conditions or situations change between approval of the hardship application and the end of the approved relief period.

§ 80.1336 What if a refiner or importer cannot produce gasoline conforming to the requirements of this subpart?

In extreme, unusual, and unforeseen circumstances (for example, a natural disaster or a refinery fire) that are clearly outside the control of the refiner or importer and that could not have been avoided by the exercise of prudence, diligence, and due care, EPA may permit a refinery or importer to exceed the allowable average benzene levels specified in § 80.1230(a) or (b), as applicable, if—

(a) It is in the public interest to do so;

(b) The refiner or importer exercised prudent planning and was not able to avoid the violation and has taken all reasonable steps to minimize the extent of the nonconformity;

(c) The refiner or importer can show how the requirements at § 80.1230(a) or (b), as applicable, will be achieved as expeditiously as possible;

(d) The refiner or importer agrees to make up any air quality detriment associated with the nonconformity, where practicable; and

(e) The refiner or importer pays to the U.S. Treasury an amount equal to the economic benefit of the nonconformity minus the amount expended making up the air quality detriment pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section.

SMALL REFINER PROVISIONS

§ 80.1338 What criteria must be met to qualify as a small refiner for the gasoline benzene requirements of this subpart?

(a) A small refiner is any person that demonstrates that it—

(1) Produced gasoline at a refinery by processing crude oil through refinery processing units from January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005.

(2) Employed an average of no more than 1,500 people, based on the average

number of employees for all pay periods from January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005.

(3) Had a corporate average crude oil capacity less than or equal to 155,000 barrels per calendar day (bpcd) for 2005.

(4) Following the submission of a small refiner application, pursuant to § 80.1340, has been approved as a small refiner for this subpart.

(b) For the purpose of determining the number of employees and the crude oil capacity under paragraph (a) of this section, the following determinations shall be observed:

(1) The refiner shall include the employees and crude oil capacity of any subsidiary companies, any parent company, subsidiaries of the parent company in which the parent has a controlling interest, and any joint venture partners.

(2) For any refiner owned by a governmental entity, the number of employees and total crude oil capacity as specified in paragraph (a) of this section shall include all employees and crude oil production of the government to which the governmental entity is a part.

(3) Any refiner owned and controlled by an Alaska Regional or Village Corporation organized pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601) is not considered an affiliate of such entity, or with other concerns owned by such entity, solely because of their common ownership.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, a refiner that reactivates a refinery that it had previously operated, and that was shut down or non-operational for the entire period between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2005, may apply for small refiner status in accordance with the provisions of § 80.1340.

§ 80.1339 Who is not eligible for the provisions for small refiners?

The following are not eligible for the hardship provisions for small refiners:

(a) A refiner with one or more refineries built after December 31, 2005.

(b) A refiner that exceeds the employee or crude oil capacity criteria