



WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

KRIS WARNER

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

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Office of West Virginia
Secretary Of State

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

AGENCY: Air Quality TITLE-SERIES: 45-05

RULE TYPE: Legislative Amendment to Existing Rule: Yes Repeal of existing rule: No

RULE NAME: Control of Air Pollution from the Operation of Coal Preparation Plants, Coal Handling Operations and Coal Refuse Disposal Areas

CITE STATUTORY AUTHORITY: W. Va. Code § 22-5-4

COMMENTS LIMITED TO:

Oral and Written

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING: 07/07/2026 6:00 PM

LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARING:

Virtual

DATE WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD ENDS: 07/07/2026 11:59 PM

COMMENTS MAY BE MAILED OR EMAILED TO:

NAME: Laura Jennings

ADDRESS: Department of Environmental Protection; Division of Air Quality; 601 57th Street SE
Charleston, WV 25304

EMAIL: laura.m.jennings@wv.gov

PLEASE INDICATE IF THIS FILING INCLUDES:

RELEVANT FEDERAL STATUTES OR REGULATIONS: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE CONTENT OF THE RULE:

This rule establishes emission standards for particulate matter from the operation of coal preparation plants, coal handling operations and coal refuse disposal areas and sets forth permitting, monitoring, testing, recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER CONTENTS OF CHANGES IN THE RULE AND A STATEMENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING THE RULE:

Summary of changes in the rule:

The rule is being revised primarily to address SIP approvability concerns with the severability language in section 17 by removing this language. Additional revisions include allowing the use of other equivalent EPA approved test method as an alternative to Method 9 in section 12.4 and other miscellaneous typographical updates.

Statement of circumstances requiring the rule:

Rule 5 remains subject to the U.S. EPA finding of failure to submit action [88 Fed. Reg. 23353, April 17, 2023] to address deficiencies identified in the U.S. EPA 2015 findings of substantial inadequacy and SIP Call for provisions related to excess emissions during periods of startup, shutdown, and malfunction (SSM) (SSM SIP Call). The rule was revised in 2024; however, it is not approvable as a SIP revision by EPA due to the severability language. The rule is exempt from the Regulatory Moratorium of Executive Order 21-21 under condition 2(f), implementing a federal mandate and no waiver is permitted.

Determination of Stringency:

A federal counterpart to the proposed rule does not exist; therefore, no determination of stringency is required.

Consultation with the Environmental Protection Advisory Council:

The Environmental Protection Advisory Council received a copy of the draft rule in advance of the scheduled June 3, 2026, meeting.

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER THE OVERALL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

A. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON REVENUES OF STATE GOVERNMENT:

The proposed revisions to this rule should not impact revenues of state government.

B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS:

The proposed revisions to this rule should not impact special revenue accounts.

C. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE RULE ON THE STATE OR ITS RESIDENTS:

The proposed revisions to this rule should not impact costs of state government beyond that resulting from currently applicable federal requirements, nor should it have an economic impact on the state or its residents.

D. FISCAL NOTE DETAIL:

Effect of Proposal	Fiscal Year		
	2026 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	2027 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Fiscal Year (Upon Full Implementation)
1. Estimated Total Cost	0	0	0
Personal Services	0	0	0
Current Expenses	0	0	0
Repairs and Alterations	0	0	0
Assets	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
2. Estimated Total Revenues	0	0	0

E. EXPLANATION OF ABOVE ESTIMATES (INCLUDING LONG-RANGE EFFECT):

The proposed revisions to this rule should have minimal effect on the costs to the Division of Air Quality. Revisions to the rule may require review of alternative emission limits in subsequent permit applications; however, any potential permitting activity resulting from the proposed revision is not expected to be significant.

In accordance with W. Va. Code §22-1A 3(c), the Secretary has determined that this rule will not result in a taking of private property within the meaning of the Constitutions of West Virginia and the United States of America.

BY CHOOSING 'YES', I ATTEST THAT THE PREVIOUS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Yes

Isaac Lewis Tincher -- By my signature, I certify that I am the person authorized to file legislative rules, in accordance with West Virginia Code §29A-3-11 and §39A-3-2.

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TITLE 45
LEGISLATIVE RULE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AIR QUALITY

SERIES 5
CONTROL OF AIR POLLUTION FROM
THE OPERATION OF COAL PREPARATION PLANTS, COAL
HANDLING OPERATIONS AND COAL REFUSE DISPOSAL AREAS

§45-5-1. General.

1.1. Scope. -- This rule establishes emission standards for particulate matter from the operation of coal preparation plants, coal handling operations and coal refuse disposal areas and sets forth permitting, monitoring, testing, recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §22-5-4.

1.3. Filing Date. -- ~~May 2, 2024.~~

1.4. Effective Date. -- ~~June 1, 2024.~~

1.5. Sunset provision. -- Does not apply.

§45-5-2. Definitions.

2.1. "Air Pollution," "statutory air pollution" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in W. Va. Code §22-5-2.

2.2. "Air Pollution Control Equipment" means any equipment used for collecting gasborne particulate matter for the purpose of preventing or reducing particulate matter emissions into the open air.

2.3. "Air Table" means a device using a gaseous separating media for the primary purpose of improving the product quality.

2.4. "Alternative Emission Limitation" means an emission limitation that applies to a source during some but not all periods of normal operation (e.g., applies only during a specifically defined mode of operation such as startup or shutdown). An alternative emission limitation is a component of a continuously applicable emission limitation, and it may take the form of a control measure such as a design, equipment, work practice or operational standard (whether or not numerical).

2.5. "Coal Preparation Plant" means and includes any facility (excluding underground mining operations) that prepares coal by ~~one~~^{one} or more of the following processes: screening, breaking, crushing, wet or dry cleaning and thermal drying, and further such definition of a coal preparation plant shall include all coal handling operations associated with the processes described above, but shall not include:

2.5.1. Any facility that is designed to process less than 200 tons of coal per day;

2.5.2. Any facility or equipment subject to the requirements of 45CSR2, 45CSR3, 45CSR7; or

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2.5.3. Any facility which would be defined as a coal preparation plant solely because it incorporates a stationary grizzly or scalping screen to separate oversized refuse from coal.

2.6. "Coal Refuse" means any combination of carbonaceous waste with rock, shale, culm boney, slate, clay and related materials associated with or near a coal seam, which are either brought above ground or otherwise removed from the mine in the process of mining coal, or which are separated from coal during the cleaning or preparation operations: Provided that coal refuse shall not mean overburden from strip-mining operations or incombustible materials from mine shafts and mine tunnels.

2.7. "Coal Refuse Disposal Area" means any area or plot of land which is used as a place for dumping, storage or disposal of coal refuse. A coal refuse pile must be contained in a single coal refuse disposal area; however, a coal refuse disposal area may contain 2 or more coal refuse piles if the area is so designated.

2.8. "Coal Refuse Pile" means any deposit of coal refuse on the surface which is intended as a permanent disposal of or long-term storage of such material. Continuous deposits of coal refuse and deposits, which are not separated, shall be considered a single coal refuse pile.

2.9. Reserved.

2.10. "Fuel" means a fuel such as a solid, gaseous or liquid fuel which is fired in fuel burning equipment.

2.11. "Fuel Burning Equipment" means and includes any chamber, apparatus, device, mechanism, stack or structure used in the process of burning fuel for the primary purpose of producing heat for a thermal dryer.

2.12. "Fugitive Dust" means any particulate matter generated, which, if not confined or suppressed by water or chemical treatment, would be emitted directly into the open air from points other than a stack outlet.

2.13. "Fugitive Dust Control System" means any equipment or method used to confine, collect and dispose of fugitive dust, including, but not limited to, hoods, bins, duct work, fans, air pollution control equipment and equipment used to prevent or minimize the emission of fugitive dust by water or chemical treatment.

2.14. "Handling Operation" means and includes, but is not limited to, all coal grinding, crushing, picking, screening, conveying, storing and stockpiling operations not associated with a coal preparation plant as defined in this rule, and which are not also subject to the emission control requirements of 45CSR2, 45CSR3 or 45CSR7.

2.15. "Malfunction" means a sudden and unavoidable breakdown of process or control equipment.

2.16. "Opacity" means the degree to which emissions reduce the transmission of light and obscure the view of an object in the background.

2.17. "Operation of a Coal Refuse Disposal Area" means the act of disposing, depositing or dumping of coal refuse upon a coal refuse disposal area or of physically altering the coal refuse disposal area, except by removal of ashes, red dog or other material from a burned-out coal refuse pile.

2.18. "Particulate Matter" means any material, except uncombined water, that exists in a finely divided form as a liquid or solid.

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2.19. "Person" means any and all persons, natural or artificial, including the state of West Virginia or any other state, the United States of America, any municipal, statutory, public or private corporation organized or existing under the laws of this or any other state or country, and any firm, partnership or association of whatever nature.

2.20. "Plant" means and includes all equipment and grounds utilized in an integral complex for coal preparation and associated handling.

2.21. "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection or such other person to whom the Secretary has delegated authority or duties pursuant to W.Va. Code §§22-1-6 or 22-1-8.

2.22. "Shutdown" means the cessation of operation of a source subject to this rule for any reason, unless otherwise defined in a permit issued to create an alternative emission limitation.

2.23. "Stack", for the purpose of this rule, means, but is not limited to, any duct, control equipment exhaust or similar apparatus, which vents gases containing particulate matter into the open air from operations including, but not limited to, furnaces, drying chambers and air separation (table) operations.

2.24. "Standard Cubic Foot" means 1 cubic foot of dry gas, measured at standard conditions of 68° F and 29.92 inches of mercury column.

2.25. "Startup" means the setting in operation of a source subject to this rule for any reason, unless otherwise defined in a permit issued to create an alternative emission limitation.

2.26. "Thermal Dryer" means a device using fuel burning equipment for the primary purpose of reducing the moisture content of coal.

2.27. Other words and phrases used in this rule, unless otherwise indicated, shall have the meaning ascribed to them in W. Va. Code §22-5-1 et seq.

§45-5-3. Emission of Particulate Matter Prohibited and Standards of Measurement.

3.1. No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit emission of particulate matter into the open air from any stack which is 20% opacity or greater, except as noted in subsection 3.2.

3.2. The provisions of subsection 3.1 shall not apply to particulate matter emitted, which is less than 60% opacity for a period or periods aggregating no more than 5 minutes in any 60-minute period during operation.

3.3. The provisions of subsections 3.1 and 3.2 shall not apply to particulate matter emitted, which is less than 60% opacity for a period of up to 8 minutes in any operating day for the purposes of building a fire of operating quality in the fuel burning equipment of a thermal dryer.

3.4. No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit emission of particulate matter into the open air from any fugitive dust control system which is 20% opacity or greater.

§45-5-4. Control and Prohibition of Particulate Emissions From Coal Thermal Drying Operations of a Coal Preparation Plant.

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4.1. No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit particulate matter to be vented into the open air from any thermal dryer exhaust in excess of the following limitations:

4.1.1. Thermal dryers which commenced construction or modification after October 24, 1974, shall meet emission limitations set forth under 45CSR16.

4.1.2. Thermal dryers installed before October 24, 1974, that are not subject to subdivision 4.1.1, shall comply with the limitations and requirements set forth in Appendix 45-5 to this rule.

4.2. No person shall circumvent this rule by adding additional gas to any dryer exhaust or group of dryer exhausts for the purpose of reducing the grain loading.

4.3. No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit the exhaust gases from a thermal dryer to be vented into the open air at an altitude of less than 80 feet above the foundation grade of the structure containing the dryer or less than 10 feet above the top of said structure or any adjacent structure, whichever is greater. In determining the desirable height of a plant stack, due consideration shall be given to the local topography, meteorology, the location of nearby dwellings and public roads, the stack emission rate and good engineering practice as set forth in 45CSR20.

§45-5-5. Control and Prohibition of Particulate Emissions From an Air Table Operation of a Coal Preparation Plant.

5.1. No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit particulate matter to be vented into the open air from any air table exhaust in excess of 0.05 grains per dry standard cubic foot of exhaust gases.

5.2. No person shall circumvent this rule by adding additional gas to any air table exhaust or group of air table exhausts for the purpose of reducing the grain loading.

§45-5-6. Control and Prohibition of Fugitive Dust Emissions From Coal Handling Operations and Preparation Plants.

6.1. No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit a coal preparation plant or handling operation to operate that is not equipped with a fugitive dust control system. This system shall be operated and maintained in such a manner as to minimize the emission of particulate matter into the open air.

6.2. The owner or operator of a coal preparation plant or handling operation shall maintain dust control of the premises and owned, leased or controlled access roads by paving, or other suitable measures. Good operating practices shall be observed in relation to stockpiling, car loading, breaking, screening and general maintenance to minimize dust generation and atmospheric entrainment.

6.3. Fugitive emissions from coal preparation plants and handling operations which are subject to this rule shall be exempt from the provisions of 45CSR17, provided that such sources shall not be exempt from the provisions of W. Va. Code §§22-5-1 et seq., including the provisions of W. Va. Code §22-5-3 relating to statutory air pollution.

6.4. Owners or operators of coal handling operations and coal preparation plants located in the area of Brooke County west of State Route 2, north of an extension of the southern boundary of Steubenville Township in Jefferson County, Ohio, and south of the Market Street Bridge shall comply with the following fugitive dust control provisions:

6.4.1. Particulate matter mass emissions shall not exceed 0.001 pounds per ton of coal input from

any coal crusher or coal screening operation.

6.4.2. Visible particulate emissions shall not exceed 5% opacity from any coal crushing or screening operation or from any coal conveying system.

6.4.3. A definitive, approvable plan to control fugitive dust entrainment and emissions from vehicular traffic and activity areas including, but not limited to, paved and unpaved haulroads, stockpile areas, haulway berms and plant access roads to public streets and highways shall be submitted to the Secretary and such a plan shall be embodied in a consent order approved by the Secretary. For plants or handling operations not in existence on August 31, 2000, the plan shall be deemed filed upon filing of an application for construction, modification or relocation pursuant to section 10.

6.4.3.a. Provide specific scheduled treatment frequencies for all areas of vehicular activity and stockpiling using water and/or chemical dust suppressants at sufficient application rates and intensities and wet flushing and vacuum sweeping for paved surfaces so as to reduce uncontrolled fugitive dust emissions by at least 95% as determined by methods and procedures in the document, "Control of Open Fugitive Dust Sources" (EPA 450/3-88-008, September, 1988) or other measures which achieve equivalent emission reductions as determined in accordance with the reference document.

6.4.3.b. Provide for daily monitoring and recordkeeping and not less than monthly reporting of dust control measures to the Secretary including, but not limited to, water and chemical usage rates; chemical dust suppressant dilution ratios; accurate water and/or chemical flow rates or volumes through stationary or mobile dust suppression equipment and system pressures; beginning and ending times for treatment; traffic rates and types of vehicles using plant haulways, access roads and other vehicle activity areas; meteorological conditions relevant to control program requirements and equipment maintenance and downtime records.

6.4.3.c. Provide that no coal be unloaded from trucks which are not, upon entry to the plant or handling facility, tarped or otherwise covered to prevent dust entrainment, spillage or reentrainment.

6.4.3.d. Provide that the wheels, tires and underbodies of all coal trucks be fully cleaned by an automatic washing system or equivalently effective system prior to exiting onto paved streets or highways from the premises of the plant or coal handling operation if such trucks travel over unpaved or soiled areas within the plant or coal handling operation.

6.4.3.e. Provide that all paved traffic areas be water flushed and vacuum or broom swept daily or alternatively be treated with water and/or chemical dust suppressants in accordance with paragraph 6.4.3.a.

6.4.3.f. Provide that all reports required under this section be certified to be true and accurate by the owner or operator prior to submission to the Secretary.

6.4.3.g. Provide that the design of dust suppression systems or equipment, including but not limited to, number of trucks and truck tank capacity, spray bar or header volumes and pressures, spray system pump specifications, type of chemicals used, number and design of vacuum trucks maintained and other similar information be clearly incorporated.

6.4.4. The Secretary may consider or incorporate exceptional provisions to the fugitive dust control plans or schedules approved pursuant to subdivision 6.4.3 taking into consideration such conditions as rainfall, snow cover and freezing weather.

§45-5-7. Standards for Coal Refuse Disposal Areas.

7.1. To prevent and control air pollution from coal refuse disposal areas, the operation of coal refuse disposal areas shall be conducted in accordance with the standards established by this section.

7.2. Coal refuse is not to be deposited on any coal refuse disposal area unless the coal refuse is deposited in such a manner as to minimize the possibility of ignition of the coal refuse.

7.3. Coal refuse disposal areas shall not be so located with respect to mine openings, tipples or other mine buildings, unprotected coal outcrops or steam lines, that these external factors will contribute to the ignition of the coal refuse on such coal refuse disposal areas.

7.4. Vegetation and combustible materials shall not be left on the ground at the site where a coal refuse pile is to be established, unless it is rendered inert before coal refuse is deposited on such site.

7.5. Coal refuse shall not be dumped or deposited on a coal refuse pile known to be burning, except for the purpose of controlling the fire or where the additional coal refuse will not tend to ignite or where such dumping will not result in statutory air pollution.

7.6. Materials with low ignition points used in the production or preparation of coal, including, but not limited to, wood, brattice cloth, waste paper, rags, oil and grease, shall not be deposited on any coal refuse disposal area or in such proximity as will reasonably contribute to the ignition of a coal refuse disposal area.

7.7. Garbage, trash, household refuse and like materials shall not be deposited on or near any coal refuse disposal area.

7.8. The deliberate ignition of a coal refuse disposal area or the ignition of any materials on such an area by any person or persons is prohibited.

§45-5-8. Burning Coal Refuse Disposal Areas.

8.1. Each burning coal refuse disposal area which allegedly causes air pollution shall be investigated by the Secretary.

8.2. Each burning coal refuse disposal area which causes air pollution shall be considered on an individual basis by the Secretary. Consistent with the declaration of policy and purpose set forth in W. Va. Code §22-5-1, as well as the established facts and circumstances of the particular case, the Secretary shall determine and may order the effectuation of those air pollution control measures which are adequate for each such coal refuse disposal area.

8.3. With respect to all burning coal refuse disposal areas, the person responsible for the coal refuse disposal areas or the land on which the coal refuse disposal areas are located shall use due diligence to control air pollution from the coal refuse disposal areas. Consistent with the declaration of policy and purpose set forth in W. Va. Code §22-5-1, the Secretary shall determine what constitutes due diligence with respect to each such burning coal refuse disposal area. When a study of any burning coal refuse disposal area by the Secretary establishes that air pollution exists or may be created, the person responsible for the coal refuse disposal area or the land on which the coal refuse disposal area is located shall submit to the Secretary a report setting forth satisfactory methods and procedures to eliminate, prevent or reduce the air pollution. The report shall be submitted within such time as the Secretary shall specify. The report for the elimination, prevention or reduction of air pollution shall contain sufficient information, including,

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completion dates, to establish that the corrective measures can be executed with due diligence. If approved by the Secretary, the corrective measures and completion dates shall be embodied in a consent order issued pursuant to W. Va. Code §§ 22-5-1 et seq. If the report is not submitted as requested or if the Secretary determines that the methods and procedures set forth in the report are not adequate to reasonably control the air pollution he or she shall issue an order requiring the elimination, prevention or reduction of the air pollution.

§45-5-9. Monitoring of Operations.

9.1. Thermal dryers subject to subsection 4.1 shall meet the monitoring and calibration requirements set forth under 45CSR16.

9.2. The owner or operator of a thermal dryer subject to subdivision 4.1.2 shall install, calibrate, maintain and continuously operate monitoring devices, as set forth in Appendix 45-5 to this rule.

§45-5-10. Construction, Modification and Relocation Permits.

10.1. No person shall construct, modify or relocate any coal preparation plant or coal handling operation without first obtaining a permit in accordance with the provisions of W. Va. Code §§22-5-1 et seq. and the Secretary's rules for review and permitting of new or modified sources, except that coal handling operations which are not "stationary sources" as defined by subdivision 2.24.2 of 45CSR13 are not required to obtain a permit under 45CSR13. The terms "construction", "modification" and "relocation" shall have the meaning ascribed to them in 45CSR13.

§45-5-11. Operating Permits.

11.1. The owner or operator of each coal preparation plant shall submit a complete application for an operating permit to the Secretary.

11.1.1. The operating permit application shall contain sufficient information as in the judgement of the Secretary is necessary to enable him to determine whether the preparation plant and air pollution control equipment or measures comply with this rule and other applicable rules. Information to be furnished in the permit application shall include but not be limited to:

11.1.1.a. A description of the nature, location, design capacity and typical and maximum operating schedules of the facility, including, specifications and drawings showing its design and plant layout; and

11.1.1.b. A detailed description as to what systems of continuous emission reduction are employed by the facility, emission estimates and any other information as necessary to determine the required emissions control technology or measures that must be applied.

11.2. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a coal preparation plant, which was in existence on May 1, 1995, that has not submitted a completed operating permit application to the Secretary in accordance with this section by August 1, 1995.

11.3. Any owner or operator of a coal preparation plant which is constructed, modified or relocated after May 1, 1995 pursuant to a preconstruction permit as provided under section 10, shall submit a completed application for a new operating permit, or an amendment to an existing permit in the case of a modification, within 60 days of the date of start-up of such new facility, modification or relocation.

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11.4. No owner or operator of a coal preparation plant shall be deemed to be in violation of this section during the pendency of the Secretary's operating permit review period, provided that such owner or operator has submitted a complete operating permit application in accordance with this section and is otherwise in compliance with the Code and the rules promulgated thereunder.

11.4.1. The owner or operator shall expeditiously correct any deficiencies and errors found in the permit application or provide necessary omitted or supplemental information identified to the owner or operator by the Secretary.

11.4.2. The owner or operator shall submit a written and certified response to any written Notice of Deficiency (NOD) forwarded by the Secretary within 20 days of receipt of the NOD.

11.5. If, after any investigation made by the Secretary, the Secretary shall be of the opinion that an operating permit holder is violating the provisions of this rule, the Secretary may issue an order suspending or revoking the operating permit in the manner provided under W. Va. Code §22-5-5. Such order shall be considered a cease and desist order for purposes of administrative and judicial review. Operating permits revoked or suspended may be renewed by the Secretary upon a showing of compliance with the provisions of this rule, the permit, the Code and all other rules.

11.6. The possession of an operating permit by any person shall in no way relieve the holder thereof of the obligation to comply with the provisions of this or any other rule or W. Va. Code §22-5-1 et seq.; provided:

11.6.1. That the owner or operator of a source for which an operating permit is required under this rule and under 45CSR30 shall only be required to submit an operating permit application and to obtain an operating permit pursuant to 45CSR30; and

11.6.2. That the owner or operator of a source for which an operating permit is required under this rule who chooses to obtain a general permit relating to coal preparation plants and coal handling operations pursuant to 45CSR13 shall only be required to submit the required registration and obtain coverage under the general permit.

11.7. Upon determination by the Secretary that the applicant for a permit for a coal preparation plant may violate applicable emissions standards or other applicable rules or may cause violations of ambient air standards, the Secretary shall issue an order denying an operating permit for such facility in the manner provided under W. Va. Code §22-5-12. Such order shall be considered a cease and desist order for purposes of administrative and judicial review.

11.8. The Secretary shall not issue an operating permit to any person who has not paid in full all fees required under 45CSR22 or any other applicable fee rule. Failure to pay applicable fees shall be cause for operating permit denial, suspension or revocation, provided that the payment of fees required under 45CSR22 and possession of a 45CSR22 certificate to operate shall not constitute possession of a valid operating permit as required under this rule.

11.9. Operating permits issued under this rule shall be continuous unless revised, renewed, revoked, suspended or otherwise changed under the provisions of this rule or any other applicable legislative rule.

11.10. If not previously submitted, a complete application for an operating permit shall be submitted to the Secretary at least 60 days prior to the date that an inactive plant subject to this section is to be reactivated.

§45-5-12. Reporting and Testing.

12.1. At such reasonable times as the Secretary may designate, the owner or operator of a coal preparation plant may be required to conduct or have conducted stack tests to determine the dust loading in exhaust gases and mass emission rates of particulate matter. All tests to determine compliance with exhaust gas dust concentrations and particulate matter mass emission rates shall be conducted in accordance with Methods 1-5 of 40 CFR Part 60, Appendix A and 45CSR16 provided that all compliance tests must consist of not less than 3 test runs, test run duration shall not be less than 60 minutes, and not less than 30 standard cubic feet of exhaust gas must be sampled during each test run. Should the Secretary exercise his option to conduct such tests, the operator will provide all necessary sampling connections and sampling ports to be located in such manner as the Secretary may require, power for test equipment and the required safety equipment such as scaffolding, railings, ladders, etc., to comply with generally accepted good safety practices.

12.2. The Secretary may conduct such other tests as he may deem necessary to evaluate air pollution emissions other than those noted in subsection 12.1.

12.3. The owner or operator shall submit a test protocol for the Secretary's approval not less than 30 days prior to any test to determine compliance with this rule and shall provide at least 15 days notice of all compliance tests to the Secretary.

12.4. Tests to determine compliance with the visible emission limitations of sections 3 and 6 shall be conducted by certified visible emission observers in accordance with Method 9 of 40 CFR Part 60, Appendix A and 45CSR16 or other equivalent EPA approved method as approved by the Secretary.

12.5. Nothing in subsection 12.4, however, shall preclude any owner or operator or the Secretary from using opacity data from a properly installed, calibrated, maintained and operated continuous opacity monitor from being used as evidence to demonstrate compliance or a violation of visible emission requirements of this rule.

12.6. Any stack venting thermal dryer exhaust gases and/or air table exhaust gases or exhaust gases or air from any air pollution control device shall include straight runs of sufficient length to establish flow patterns consistent with acceptable stack sampling procedures. Flow straightening devices shall be required where cyclonic gas flow would exist in the absence of such devices.

§45-5-13. Reserved.

§45-5-14. Transfer of Permits.

14.1. Any person holding a valid operating permit under this rule may request that the Secretary transfer the operating permit to another person providing the following conditions are met:

14.1.1. The permit holder describes, in writing, the reasons for or circumstances of the transfer, lists all relevant air quality permit numbers and certifies that the facility to which the permit pertains is in compliance with all air permits issued by the Secretary and all applicable rules of the Secretary;

14.1.2. The transferee identifies and acknowledges, in writing, that it accepts and will comply with all permit(s) issued by the Secretary as identified in the notice of transfer filed pursuant to subdivision 14.1.1 and that it will comply with all applicable rules; and

14.1.3. The permit holder or transferee pays, at the time of the request for transfer, a transfer fee of

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\$200 payable to the Air Pollution Control Fund. Such payment satisfies the requirement of subsection 4.2 of 45CSR22.

14.2. Once the permittee and proposed transferee have complied with subsection 14.1, such a transfer shall be deemed approved unless the Secretary notifies the permittee and proposed transferee in writing, within 30 days, that:

14.2.1. Additional information is required in order to process and act on the transfer; or

14.2.2. Such a transfer is denied, in which event the supporting findings of fact and legal authority for said denial shall be set forth in writing.

14.2.2.a. Any such denial may be appealed in the same manner as an appeal from permit denial under W. Va. Code §22-5-14 and applicable rules.

§45-5-15 Alternative Emission Limitations.

15.1. Any owner or operator that cannot meet the emission limitations established in sections 3, 4 or 5 during periods of startup or shutdown shall request an alternative emission limitation pursuant to 45CSR1.

§45-5-16. Inconsistency Between Rules.

16.1. In the event of any inconsistency between this rule and Appendix 45-5 and any other existing rule of the Division of Air Quality, such inconsistency shall be resolved by the determination of the Secretary and such determination shall be based upon the application of the more stringent provision, term, condition, method or rule.

~~§45-5-17.—Disposition of Rule; Severability. Reserved.~~

~~—17.1. In the event the U.S. EPA’s June 12, 2015 “State Implementation Plans: Response to Petition for Rulemaking; Restatement and Update of EPA’s SSM Policy Applicable to SIPs; Finding of Substantial Inadequacy; and SIP Calls to Amend Provisions Applying to Excess Emissions During Periods of Startup, Shutdown and Malfunction,” at 80 Fed. Reg. 33840 (2015 SSM SIP Call) is withdrawn by the U.S. EPA, is invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, and/or is invalidated by an act of the West Virginia Legislature or United States Congress, the Secretary may terminate any permit or section of an existing permit issued pursuant to this rule.~~

~~—17.2. In the event the U.S. EPA’s April 17, 2023 “Air Plan Disapproval; West Virginia; Revision to the West Virginia State Implementation Plan To Add the Startup, Shutdown, Maintenance Rule 45CSR1—Alternative Emission Limitations During Startup, Shutdown, and Maintenance Operations,” at 88 Fed. Reg. 23356 (45CSR1-2023 Disapproval) is withdrawn by the U.S. EPA, is invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, and/or is invalidated by an act of the West Virginia Legislature or United States Congress, the Secretary may terminate any permit or section of an existing permit issued pursuant to this rule.~~

~~—17.3. In the event the U.S. EPA’s April 17, 2023 “West Virginia; Finding of Failure To Submit State Implementation Plan Revision in Response to the 2015 Findings of Substantial Inadequacy and SIP Calls To Amend Provisions Applying to Excess Emissions During Periods of Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction,” at 88 Fed. Reg. 23353 (2023 FFS) is withdrawn by the U.S. EPA, is invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, and/or is invalidated by an act of the West Virginia Legislature or United States Congress, the Secretary may terminate any permit or section of an existing permit issued pursuant to this rule.~~

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~~17.4. In the event the 2015 SSM SIP Call, 45CSR1-2023 Disapproval, and/or the 2023 FFS is withdrawn by the U.S. EPA, is invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, and/or is invalidated by an act of the West Virginia Legislature or United States Congress, the Secretary may sever requirement § 45-5-15.1 and revert to the August 31, 2000 requirements found at §§ 45-5-13.1, 13.2 and 13.3.~~

Appendix 45-5

1.0. Particulate Emission Limitations Applicable to Thermal Dryers Installed Before October 25, 1974.

1.1. Thermal dryers installed on or before March 1, 1970, shall not exceed the emission limitations of Table 45-5-A:

Table 45-5-A

Total Plant Volumetric Flow Rate (Standard Cubic Feet Per Minute)	Maximum Allowable Particulate Loading Per Dryer (Grains Per Standard Cubic Foot)
120,000 or less	0.12
172,000	0.11
245,000	0.10
351,000	0.09
500,000 and above	0.08

1.2. Thermal dryers installed after March 1, 1970, but before October 24, 1974 shall not exceed the emission limitations of Table 45-5-B:

Table 45-5-B

Total Plant Volumetric Flow Rate (Standard Cubic Feet Per Minute)	Maximum Allowable Particulate Loading Per Dryer (Grains Per Standard Cubic Foot)
75,000 or less	0.10
111,000	0.09
163,000	0.08
240,000 and above	0.07

1.3. For the volumetric flow rate between any ~~two~~^{two} consecutive volumetric flow rates stated in subsection 1.1. and subsection 1.2. of Appendix 45-5, limitations shall be as determined by linear interpolation. For the purpose hereof, the total volumetric flow rate shall be the total standard cubic feet of dry gas passed through all thermal dryers at ~~one~~^{one} plant location. This value shall be determined by methods which are acceptable to the Secretary.

1.4. When modifications were made to plants after March 1, 1970 but before October 24, 1974, that resulted in a significant increase in the total gas volume passing through a thermal dryer(s), said dryer(s) will be subject to the emission limitations of subsection 1.2. of Appendix 45-5 even though such modifications do not include the installation of a new thermal dryer(s).

2.0. Monitoring of Operations Applicable to Thermal Dryers Installed Before October 25, 1974.

2.1. A monitoring device for the continuous measurement of the temperature of the gas stream at the exit of the thermal dryer. The monitoring device is to be certified by the manufacturer to be accurate within plus or minus 3°F.

2.2. For thermal dryers that use venturi scrubber emissions control equipment:

2.2.1. A monitoring device for the continuous measurement of the pressure loss through the venturi constriction of the control equipment. The monitoring device is to be certified by the manufacturer to be accurate within plus or minus 1 in. water gauge.

Appendix 45-5

2.2.2. A monitoring device for the continuous measurement of the water supply pressure to the control equipment. The monitoring device is to be certified by the manufacturer to be accurate within plus or minus 5% design water supply pressure. The pressure sensor must be located close to the water discharge point or at such point as approved by the Secretary.

2.3. All monitoring devices required under subsection 2.2. of Appendix 45-5 are to be recalibrated at least once annually.