

FACT SHEET
Final Amendments to National Perchloroethylene Air Emission Standards for Dry Cleaning Facilities

ACTION

- On December 20, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized amendments to the 1993 National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Perchloroethylene (PCE) Dry Cleaning facilities (PCE Dry Cleaning NESHAP).
- This action fulfills the Clean Air Act (CAA) technology review conducted for commercial and industrial dry cleaning facilities using perchloroethylene (PCE).
- Given the recently finalized action from the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) under the Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) which prohibits the manufacture, processing, and distribution of PCE in dry cleaning and spot cleaning through a 10-year phaseout, this final rule does not finalize the changes made at proposal and makes no amendments to the current NESHAP.

TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

- The CAA requires EPA to assess, review and revise air toxics standards, as necessary, taking into account developments in practices, processes and control technologies.
- We are finalizing a determination that there are no necessary revisions to the NESHAP based on the recent TSCA rule, and after accounting for developments in practices, processes, and control technologies.

BACKGROUND

- On September 22, 1993, EPA finalized the National Perchloroethylene Air Emissions Standards for Dry Cleaning (40 CFR part 63, subpart M), also known as the Perc Dry Cleaning NESHAP.
- The standards address hazardous air pollutant (HAP) emissions of perchloroethylene, also known as PCE, perc, tetrachloroethene, and tetrachloroethylene, from dry cleaning operations.
- PCE dry cleaning machines are classified into two types: transfer and dry-to-dry.
 - Transfer machines are prohibited by the existing rule at major and area sources. They are no longer sold; none are known to still be in operation and should have been replaced by dry-to-dry machines.
 - Dry-to-dry machines wash, extract, and dry the articles in a single machine. The articles enter and exit the machine dry. Dry-to-dry machines have much lower emissions than transfer machines.
- On July 27, 2006, the NESHAP was amended based on findings of a residual risk and technology review (RTR). Revisions to the rule strengthened leak detection and repair procedures at major and area sources and included a phase-out of facilities co-located in buildings with residential occupancy by 2020.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Interested parties can download a copy of the proposed rule notice from EPA's website at the following address: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/dry-cleaning-facilities-national-perchloroethylene-air-emission>.
- Today's action and other background information are also available electronically at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0155>, EPA's electronic public docket and comment system. Materials for this action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0155.