# WASHINGTON—CARBON MONOXIDE—Continued

Designated area Clark County (part) Air Quality Mainte- nance Area.		Designation		Classification	
		Date 1	Туре	Date 1	Туре
			Nonattainment		Moderate ≤12.7ppm.
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<sup>1</sup> This date is November 15, 1990, unless otherwise noted.

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### 40 CFR Parts 264 and 265

[IL-64-2-5807; FRL-5306-9]

## Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities and Hazardous Waste Generators; Organic Air Emission Standards for Tanks, Surface Impoundments, and Containers

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). ACTION: Final rule; stay.

**SUMMARY:** The EPA is issuing a stay subject to conditions for air standards applicable to hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDF). This stay is applicable to tanks and containers used for the management of certain hazardous wastes generated by organic peroxide manufacturing processes. Certain organic peroxide manufacturing wastes are inherently unstable and can not safely be confined in closed units or systems. Therefore, the EPA is staving the applicability of the subpart CC technical requirements for units managing these specific organic peroxide compounds.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 6, 1995. ADDRESSES: Docket. Docket entries cited in this notice may be found in RCRA docket number F-94-CE2A-FFFFF. Other RCRA docket numbers that pertain to the final rule are F-91-CESP-FFFFF, F-92-CESA-FFFFF, and F-94-CESF–FFFFF. The docket is available for inspection at the EPA RCRA Docket Office (5305), Room 2616, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information about this stay contact the RCRA Hotline at (703) 412-9877 or toll-free at 1-800-424-9346.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## I. Background

On December 6, 1994, the EPA published in the Federal Register (59

FR 62896) under authority of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended, standards requiring the use of air emission controls on certain tanks, surface impoundments, and containers at hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDF). These standards are codified in 40 CFR parts 264 and 265 under subpart CC (referred to as the "subpart CC standards").

A major manufacturer of organic peroxide products has expressed its concern to the EPA regarding the availability of air emission controls which could safely be used on tanks and containers that manage certain types of organic peroxides. Certain organic peroxides are temperature sensitive compounds that are subject to spontaneous, rapid decomposition under certain conditions. The company maintains that use of the air emission controls required under the subpart CC standards on certain tanks and containers at their organic peroxides manufacturing facilities would have the potential to significantly increase the risk of explosion and fire. An inherent risk is created because these units manage a variety of organic peroxide wastes, including intermittent batches or streams containing organic peroxides that potentially undergo spontaneous, rapid thermal decomposition and hydrolysis at or below ambient temperatures.

A variety of organic peroxide products are manufactured in the United States for use by the plastics and allied industries. Typically, these organic peroxide compounds serve as initiators (catalysts) and resin hardeners in the manufacture of widely used polymer plastics (e.g., polystyrene, polyvinyl chloride, polyethylene, acrylic resins). At some organic peroxide manufacturing facilities, the production processes may generate hazardous wastes containing organic peroxides that are placed in waste management units subject to the subpart CC standards.

The manufacture, transport, and use of organic peroxide products may require implementing special safety

precautions to avoid the spontaneous, rapid decomposition of certain organic peroxides. The rate at which these organic peroxides decompose is a function of temperature. Individual organic peroxide compounds and mixtures of these compounds have different sensitivities to temperature. Some organic peroxide compounds are relatively stable (i.e., do not decompose) at ambient temperatures (e.g., 30 °C). In general, it is not necessary to handle these types of organic peroxides any differently than other organic compounds during normal process operations. Other organic peroxide compounds can undergo spontaneous, rapid thermal decomposition and hydrolysis at temperatures at, or below, ambient temperatures. Once initiated, the self-accelerating thermal decomposition and hydrolysis reactions very rapidly generate large quantities of gaseous organic compounds and oxygen. Confinement of this gaseous mixture in an enclosed vessel (such as a covered tank or ventilation ducts) creates conditions that could result in explosion, detonation, and/or fire. Consequently, handling these types of organic peroxide compounds requires use of precautionary measures to address the possibility of uncontrolled organic peroxide decomposition.

The organic peroxide manufacturer who has raised this issue with the EPA produces a variety of organic peroxide products which are potentially unstable at or below ambient temperatures. The organic peroxide characteristics of the hazardous waste placed in tanks and containers at the company's facilities are highly variable because of the number of different types of organic peroxide products manufactured, the types of manufacturing processes used, and the nature of the operations used to safely handle organic peroxides at this company's facilities. Consequently, at any given time, the organic peroxide composition and concentration in the hazardous waste placed in these tanks and containers could potentially attain proportions initiating the spontaneous organic peroxide decomposition reactions. Unless provisions are made