

NORTH CAROLINA ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given for two public hearings to be heard by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, concerning the proposed adoption and amendment to air quality rules.

PURPOSE:

To receive comments on the adoption of the *Control of Emissions from Log Fumigation Operations* rule and the amendment of the *Toxic Air Pollutant Guidelines* rule. Also to receive comment on the accompanying fiscal note for the proposed adoption and amendment.

The Division of Air Quality identified that the general public adjacent to log fumigation operations may experience both acute exposures, as well as longer-term chronic exposures to methyl bromide as a result of these operations. Neurological and respiratory effects are of greatest concern from exposure to methyl bromide. To protect the health of all persons that may live or work in areas subject to airborne releases of methyl bromide from these operations, the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) is proposing to adopt a rule that regulates these emissions using an Acceptable Ambient Level (AAL), which limits the concentration of methyl bromide or other fumigants beyond the fence line of a facility.

To determine the AAL for methyl bromide, the Division of Air Quality provided a report and other informational materials to the North Carolina Secretaries' Science Advisory Board (SAB). On the basis of the information, the SAB recommended a range of AAL values to be considered by the EMC for methyl bromide as 0.002 mg/m³ to 0.005 mg/m³ and a 24-hour averaging time for the protection of public health. A copy of the final report submitted to the SAB can be found at

<https://files.nc.gov/ncdeq/GenX/SAB/Methyl-Bromide-AAL-FINAL-0412019-signed.pdf>

The proposed rule and amendment are as follows:

15A NCAC 02D .0546, *Control of Emissions from Log Fumigation Operations*, is proposed for adoption to establish emission control requirements for hazardous air pollutant and toxic air pollutant emissions from bulk, chamber, and container log fumigation operations;

15A NCAC 02D .1104, *Toxic Air Pollutant Guidelines*, is proposed for amendment to add methyl bromide to the toxic air pollutant list with the value of 0.005 mg/m³ for a 24-hour averaging period.

The EMC is also requesting comment on a value within a range of AALs from 0.005 mg/m³ to 0.078 mg/m³ for methyl bromide. The AAL value of 0.005 mg/m³ is based on the upper bound value recommended by the SAB. The AAL value of 0.078 mg/m³ is based on the minimal risk level (intermediate) from the April 2018 Draft for Public Comment *Toxicological Profile for Bromomethane* prepared by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), a federal public health agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. A copy of this profile can be found at <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/ToxProfiles/tp.asp?id=822&tid=160>

DATES AND LOCATION:

July 22, 2019, 6:00 P.M.
DEQ Green Square Office Building, 1st Floor Training Room (#1210), 217 West Jones Street, Raleigh NC 27603

July 23, 2019, 6:00 P.M.
Cape Fear Community College, Union Station
502 N Front St., Wilmington, NC 28401

COMMENT PROCEDURES:

All persons interested in these matters are invited to attend the public hearings. **Any person desiring to comment is requested to submit a written statement for inclusion in the record of proceedings at the public hearing.** The hearing officer may limit the length of oral presentations if many people want to speak. The public comment period is open beginning June 17, 2019, through August 16, 2019. To be included in the hearing record, all comments must be postmarked, emailed, or received by the Division (if delivered in person) no later than August 16, 2019.

INFORMATION:

Copies of the proposed rule changes may be downloaded <http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/air-quality/air-quality-rules/rules-hearing-process>. Copies of the proposals may also be reviewed at the regional offices of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, located at the following cities:

Asheville	(828) 296-4500
Fayetteville	(910) 433-3300
Mooreville	(704) 663-1699
Raleigh	(919) 791-4200
Washington	(252) 946-6481
Wilmington	(910) 796-7215
Winston-Salem	(336) 776-9800

Comments should be sent to and additional information concerning the hearings or the proposals may be obtained by contacting:

Mr. Patrick Knowlson
Division of Air Quality
1641 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1641
(919) 707-8711 Phone
(919) 715-0717 Fax (Please address it to "Patrick Knowlson")
daq.publiccomments@ncdenr.gov (Please type "**Log Fumigation**" in subject line)

DATE: _____

Michael A. Abraczinskas, DAQ Director