



State of New Jersey


DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

MARK N. MAURIELLO
Acting Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Air Quality Permitting Staff

FROM: John Preczewski, Assistant Director 

SUBJECT: Guidance on Determining Health Risks for Diesel Exhaust Particulates from Internal Combustion Engines

DATE: January 28, 2009

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance for permit evaluations of internal combustion engines which use diesel as fuel, specifically how and when a health risk assessment for diesel exhaust particulates should be conducted.

Consistent with my August 8th, 2008 memorandum "Inclusion of Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP) Emissions in Air Quality Permits", HAP emissions from the combustion of commercial fuels must be included in permit evaluations. These evaluations must include the emissions of diesel particulate. The "diesel exhaust particulates" emission rates are assumed to be equivalent to the emission rates of Particulate Matter less than 10 microns (PM-10). The PM-10 emission limits will be proposed by the applicant and verified by the evaluator.

If the PM-10 emission rate proposed exceeds the reporting threshold listed in N.J.A.C. 7:27-8 and N.J.A.C. 7:27-22, a health risk assessment of diesel exhaust particulates must be analyzed by the evaluator using the Risk Screening Worksheet (Worksheet). If a significant health risk (Total incremental risk greater than 1×10^{-6}) is determined from the Worksheet, the procedures in "Risk Screening Policy and Second-Level Risk Screening" must be followed.

The exceptions to this procedure are "Emergency Generators", as defined in N.J.A.C. 7:27-19.1 and portable, temporary (operating fewer than 90 days at a single site) equipment. Emergency Generators and portable, temporary equipment do not have to undergo a health risk assessment for diesel exhaust particulates.

c: W. O'Sullivan, Director
AQPP Listserv