

October 4, 2018

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
EPA Docket Center
Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0290
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Sir or Madam:

On behalf of the National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA), thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposed National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Clay Ceramics Manufacturing, which were published in the *Federal Register* on August 20, 2018 (83 *Federal Register* 42066). NACAA is a national, non-partisan, nonprofit association of 153 air pollution control agencies in 40 states, the District of Columbia, four territories and 116 metropolitan areas. The air quality professionals in our member agencies have vast experience dedicated to improving air quality in the U.S. These comments are based upon that experience. The views expressed in these comments do not represent the positions of every state and local air pollution control agency in the country.

The proposed rule includes provisions allowing the use of emissions averaging. NACAA has long had concerns about emissions averaging, including possible adverse health impacts (particularly in the case of interpollutant trading), and implementation challenges, such as complications that averaging poses for inspectors and enforcement personnel in determining the requirements for individual units. Therefore, if EPA decides to include emissions averaging in the final rule, it is essential that the agency retain the critical safeguards that are contained in the proposal, both in the preamble and the proposed rule language itself.¹ These include:

- assurance that the environmental benefits of the averaging will be equal to or greater than if each individual unit had complied separately and that at least the same hazardous air pollutant (HAP) emission reductions will be achieved;
- a prohibition on averaging for new sources; and

¹ <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-08-20/pdf/2018-17933.pdf> (pages 42070 and 42074, respectively)

- a prohibition on averaging between different pollutants, sources or source categories (even if the latter are within the same facility).

In the December 18, 2014 proposal for the Brick and Structural Clay Products (BSCP) Manufacturing and the Clay Ceramics Manufacturing source categories,² EPA requested comment on a provision that does not appear to be included in the current Clay Ceramics Manufacturing proposal. This is whether a discount factor should be applied when emissions averaging is used, to ensure that the average will be at least as stringent as the MACT floor limits without averaging. We believe that such a discount factor is appropriate to help ensure that HAP emission reductions are at least as much with averaging as without averaging. Emission averaging should never result in, or enable, increases in HAP emissions from a source operation.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the proposal. Please feel free to contact NACAA for additional information.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Colby
Chattanooga, Tennessee
Co-Chair
NACAA Air Toxics Committee

² <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-18/pdf/2014-28125.pdf>