

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY
1100 Division of Air Quality

1103 Ambient Air Quality Standards

08/11/22

1.0 General Provisions

- 1.1 Air quality standards are required to assure that ambient air quality shall be consistent with established criteria and shall serve to effectively and reasonably manage the air resources of the State of Delaware.
 - 1.1.1 Primary air quality standards provide public health protection, including protecting the health of sensitive populations such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly.
 - 1.1.2 Secondary air quality standards provide public welfare protection, including protection against decreased visibility and damage to crops, animals, vegetation, and buildings.
- 1.2 At such time as additional pertinent information becomes available with respect to applicable air quality criteria, recommendations shall be incorporated and the air quality standards shall be subject to revisions.
- 1.3 The absence of a specific ambient air quality standard shall not preclude actions by the Department to control contaminants to assure protection, safety, welfare, and comfort of the people of the State of Delaware.
- 1.4 Air quality standards are defined by frequency distribution presentations and arithmetic averages. The characteristic parameters describing the frequency distribution are the geometric mean and 99th percentile.
 - 1.4.1 The geometric mean is defined as the Nth root of the product of N numbers. Assuming a log-normal cumulative frequency distribution, the 50th percentile value will be equal to the geometric mean.
 - 1.4.2 The arithmetic average mean is defined as the sum of a set of values divided by the number of values.
 - 1.4.3 The 99th percentile for a group of numbers is defined as that value which is exceeded by one percent of the numbers.
- 1.5 The ambient air quality values stated herein shall apply to all areas outside a source property line.
- 1.6 The sampling and analytical procedures and techniques employed to determine ambient air concentrations of contaminants shall be consistent with methods which result in a representative evaluation of the prevailing conditions. The following methods shall be used directly or employed as reference standards against which other methods may be calibrated;
 - 1.6.1 Ambient concentrations of total suspended particulates shall be determined by the reference high volume method in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix B, Reference Method for the Determination of Suspended Particulate Matter in the Atmosphere (High-Volume Method), July 1, 2019.
 - 1.6.2 Ambient concentrations of sulfur dioxide shall be determined by the reference or equivalent method in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix A-1, Reference Method Principle and Calibration Procedure for the Measurement of Sulfur Dioxide in the Atmosphere (Ultraviolet Fluorescence Method), July 1, 2019, or 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix A-2, Reference Method for the Measurement of Sulfur Dioxide in the Atmosphere (Pararosaniline Method), July 1, 2019.
 - 1.6.3 Ambient concentrations of carbon monoxide shall be determined by the reference method in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix C, Measurement Principle and Calibration Procedure for the Measurement of Carbon Monoxide in the Atmosphere (Non-Dispersive Infrared Photometry), July 1, 2019.
 - 1.6.4 Ambient concentrations of ozone corrected for interferences due to nitrogen oxides and sulfur dioxide shall be determined by the reference method in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix D, Measurement Principle and Calibration Procedure for the Measurement of Ozone in the Atmosphere, July 1, 2019.
 - 1.6.5 Ambient concentrations of methane and non-methane hydrocarbons shall be determined by the reference method in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix E, July 1, 2019.
 - 1.6.6 Ambient concentrations of nitrogen dioxide shall be determined by the reference method in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix F, Measurement Principle and Calibration Procedure for the Measurement of Nitrogen Dioxide in the Atmosphere (Gas Phase Chemiluminescence), July 1, 2019.
 - 1.6.7 Ambient concentrations of hydrogen sulfide shall be determined by gas chromatographic separation - flame photometric detection.
 - 1.6.8 Ambient concentrations of lead shall be determined by the reference method in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix R, Reference Method for the Determination of Lead in Total Suspended Particulate Matter, July 1, 2019.

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- 1.6.9 Ambient concentrations of PM₁₀ particulate shall be determined by a reference method in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix J, Reference Method for the Determination of Particulate Matter as PM₁₀ in the Atmosphere, July 1, 2019, or an equivalent method.
- 1.6.10 Ambient concentrations of PM_{2.5} particulate shall be determined by the reference method based on 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix L, Reference Method for the Determination of Fine Particulate Matter as PM_{2.5} in the Atmosphere, July 1, 2019.
- 1.7 Air quality standards are expressed in metric units with the approximate equivalent volumetric units in parentheses. The standard conditions for air ambient monitoring is 760 mm. Hg and 25°C. The formula to convert metric units to parts per million (ppm) is:

$$\text{ppm(vol)} = \frac{\mu\text{g/m}^3 \times 0.024465}{\text{MW}} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\text{mg/m}^3 \times 24.465 \times 10^{-6}}{\text{MW}}$$

where MW is molecular weight of the contaminant being measured.

17 DE Reg. 741 (01/01/14)

26 DE Reg. 120 (08/01/22)

02/01/1981

2.0 General Restrictions

No person shall cause the air quality standards specified in this Regulation to be exceeded.

02/01/1981

3.0 Suspended Particulates

- 3.1 The Primary Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter are:
 - 3.1.1 An annual geometric mean of 75 micrograms per cubic meter not to be exceeded, based upon 24 hour average concentrations.
 - 3.1.2 A value of 260 micrograms per cubic meter not to be exceeded more than once per year, based upon 24 hour average concentrations.
- 3.2 The Secondary Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter are:
 - 3.2.1 An annual geometric mean of 60 micrograms per cubic meter as a guideline for achieving the secondary standard based upon 24 hour average concentrations.
 - 3.2.2 A value of 150 micrograms per cubic meter not to be exceeded more than once per year, based upon 24 hour average concentrations.

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4.0 Sulfur Dioxide

- 4.1 The national primary 1-hour air quality standard for oxides of sulfur is 75 parts per billion (ppb) measured in the ambient air as sulfur dioxide. The 1-hour ambient air quality standard is met when the three-year average of the annual (99th percentile) of the daily maximum 1-hour average concentration is less than or equal to 75 ppb.
 - 4.1.1 Compliance with the national primary 1-hour air quality standard is determined in accordance with 40 CFR Part 50 Appendix T, Interpretation of the Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Oxides of Sulfur (Sulfur Dioxide), July 1, 2019.
 - 4.1.2 The national primary 1-hour air quality standard for oxides of sulfur is set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.17, National Primary Ambient Air Quality Standards for Sulfur Oxides (Sulfur Dioxide), July 1, 2019.
- 4.2 Reserved.
- 4.3 Reserved.
- 4.4 The national secondary 3-hour ambient air quality standard for sulfur oxides is 0.5 parts per million (ppm), not to be exceeded more than once per calendar year.
 - 4.4.1 Compliance with the national secondary 3-hour ambient air quality standard for oxides of sulfur is determined in accordance with 40 CFR Part 50, Appendix A-1, Reference Method Principle and

Calibration Procedure for the Measurement of Sulfur Dioxide in the Atmosphere (Ultraviolet Fluorescence Method), July 1, 2019, or 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix A-2, Reference Method for the Measurement of Sulfur Dioxide in the Atmosphere (Pararosaniline Method), July 1, 2019.

- 4.4.2 The national secondary 3-hour ambient air quality standard for sulfur oxides is set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.5, National Secondary Ambient Air Quality Standard for Sulfur Oxides (Sulfur Dioxide), July 1, 2019.

17 DE Reg. 741 (01/01/14)

26 DE Reg. 120 (08/01/22)

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5.0 Carbon Monoxide

- 5.1 The average concentration of carbon monoxide taken over any consecutive eight hours shall not exceed a value of 10 milligrams per cubic meter (9 ppm) more than once per year, as set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.8, National primary ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide, July 1, 2019.
- 5.2 The average concentration of carbon monoxide taken over any one hour period shall not exceed 40 milligrams per cubic meter (35 ppm) more than once per year, as set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.8, National primary ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide, July 1, 2019.

26 DE Reg. 120 (08/01/22)

08/11/22

6.0 Ozone

- 6.1 The 1-hour primary and secondary national ambient air quality standard for ozone is $235 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.12 ppm). The primary and secondary ozone ambient air quality standards are met when the number of days per calendar year with maximum hourly average concentrations above $235 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.12 ppm) is equal to or less than 1, as determined by 40 CFR Part 50, Appendix H, Interpretation of the 1-hour Primary and Secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone, July 1, 2019. The 1-hour primary and secondary national ambient air quality standards are set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.9, National 1-hour Primary and Secondary Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone, July 1, 2019.
- 6.2 The 8-hour primary and secondary national ambient air quality standard for ozone is 0.070 parts per million (ppm). The primary and secondary ozone ambient air quality standards are met when the 3-year average of the annual fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration is less than or equal to 0.070 ppm, as determined in accordance with 40 CFR Part 50, Appendix U, Interpretation of the Primary and Secondary Air quality Standards for Ozone, July 1, 2019. The 8-hour primary and secondary ozone standards are set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.19, National Primary and Secondary Air Standards for Ozone, July 1, 2019.

17 DE Reg. 741 (01/01/14)

26 DE Reg. 120 (08/01/22)

02/01/1981

7.0 Hydrocarbons

- 7.1 The hydrocarbons standard in 7.2 of this regulation is for use as a guide in devising implementation plans to achieve the ozone standard.
- 7.2 The average concentration of hydrocarbons, exclusive of methane, taken over a three hour period from 6 to 9 a.m., local time, shall not exceed 160 micrograms per cubic meter (0.24 ppm) more than once per year.

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8.0 Nitrogen Dioxide

- 8.1 The national primary and secondary air quality standards for oxides of nitrogen (nitrogen dioxide indicator) are as follows:
- 8.1.1 The primary 1-hour air quality standard for oxides of nitrogen is 100 parts per billion (ppb), 1-hour average concentration, measured in the ambient air as nitrogen dioxide. Compliance with the 1-hour standard is demonstrated when the three-year average of the 98th percentile of the daily maximum 1-hour average concentration is less than or equal to 100 ppb, as determined with 40 CFR Part 50, Appendix S, Interpretation of the Primary Air Quality Standards for Oxides of Nitrogen (Nitrogen Dioxide), July 1, 2019.

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- 8.1.2 The primary annual air quality standard for oxides of nitrogen is 53 parts per billion (ppb), annual average concentration, measured in the ambient air as nitrogen dioxide. The primary annual air quality standard is demonstrated when the average annual concentration in a calendar year is less than or equal to 53 ppb, as determined with 40 CFR Part 50, Appendix S, Interpretation of the Primary Air Quality Standards for Oxides of Nitrogen (Nitrogen Dioxide), July 1, 2019.
- 8.1.3 The secondary annual air quality standard for oxides of nitrogen is 53 parts per billion (ppb), annual arithmetic mean concentration, measured in the ambient air as nitrogen dioxide. The secondary ambient air quality standard is demonstrated when the annual arithmetic mean concentration in a calendar year is less than or equal to 0.053 ppm. To demonstrate attainment, an annual mean must be based upon hourly data that are at least 75 percent complete or upon data derived from manual methods that are at least 75 percent complete for the scheduled sampling days in each calendar quarter.
- 8.2 The primary and secondary air quality standards for nitrogen dioxide are as set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.11, July 1, 2019.
- 17 DE Reg. 741 (01/01/14)**
26 DE Reg. 120 (08/01/22)

02/01/1981

9.0 Hydrogen Sulfide

- 9.1 The average concentration of hydrogen sulfide taken over any consecutive three minutes shall not exceed 0.06 ppm.
- 9.2 The average concentration of hydrogen sulfide taken over any consecutive 60 minutes shall not exceed 0.03 ppm.

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10.0 Lead

The national primary and secondary ambient air quality standard for lead (Pb) and its compounds are 0.15 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), arithmetic mean concentration over a 3-month period measured in the ambient air as Pb. The national primary and secondary air quality standards are set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.16, National Primary and Secondary Ambient Air Quality Standards for Lead July 1, 2019.

17 DE Reg. 741 (01/01/14)
26 DE Reg. 120 (08/01/22)

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11.0 PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} Particulates

- 11.1 The Primary and Secondary Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter, measured as PM₁₀ are:
- 11.1.1 The primary and secondary air quality standards for PM₁₀ are 150 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), 24 hour average concentration. The standards are attained when the expected number of days per calendar year with a 24-hour average concentration above 150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, as determined in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix K, Interpretation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter, July 1, 2019, is equal to or less than one. The national primary and secondary air quality standards are set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.6, National Primary and Secondary Ambient Air Quality Standards for PM₁₀, July 1, 2019.
- 11.1.2 Reserved.
- 11.2 The Primary and Secondary Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter, measured as PM_{2.5} are:
- 11.2.1 The 24-hour primary and secondary air quality standard is 35 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) 24-hour average concentration. The 24-hour primary and secondary PM_{2.5} standards are met when the 98th percentile 24-hour concentration, as determined in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix N, Interpretation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for PM_{2.5}, July 1, 2019, is less than or equal to 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The national 24-hour primary and secondary air quality standards are set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.13, National Primary and Secondary Air Quality Standards for PM_{2.5}, July 1, 2019.

11.2.2 The primary annual air quality standard is 12.0 micrograms per cubic meter (mg/m^3) annual arithmetic mean concentration. The annual primary $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ standards are met when the annual arithmetic mean concentration, as determined in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix N, Interpretation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, July 1, 2019, is less than or equal to $12.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The national annual primary and secondary air quality standards are set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.18, National Primary and Secondary Air Quality Standards for $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, July 1, 2019.

11.2.3 The secondary annual air quality standard is 15.0 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) annual arithmetic mean concentration. The annual secondary $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ standards are met when the annual arithmetic mean concentration, as determined in accordance with 40 CFR, Part 50, Appendix N, Interpretation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, July 1, 2019, is less than or equal to $15.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The national annual primary and secondary air quality standards are set forth in 40 CFR Part 50.13, National Primary and Secondary Air Quality Standards for $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, July 1, 2019.

3 DE Reg. 778 (12/01/99)

6 DE Reg. 968 (02/01/03)

12 DE Reg. 347 (09/01/08)

17 DE Reg. 741 (01/01/14)

26 DE Reg. 120 (08/01/22)