



SA n 2000-23  
APPROVED BY *crad*  
DATE 1/12/01

**START ACTION NOTICE**

- 1. **Type of Action:** Amend Regulation No. 24, Control of Volatile Organic Compound Emissions, by adding a new section to control the emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from lightering operations. In addition, minor administrative or clarifying changes will be made to other sections.
- 2. **Purpose of Action:** In December 1999, the EPA proposed to approve Delaware's 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration State Implementation Plan (SIP), contingent upon Delaware obtaining additional reductions of NOx and VOC emissions (64 FR 70444). This proposed action is one of several being developed to obtain these additional VOC emission reductions. Lightering is the transfer of cargo (usually crude oil) from ocean going vessels to service barges, thereby allowing the vessels to proceed upriver. During this cargo transfer, uncontrolled VOCs are emitted. In 1996, 1,687 tons of VOCs were emitted during lightering operations. This was the single, largest VOC emission source listed amongst the 105 stationary VOC emission sources in the 1996 Emissions Inventory. The 1,687 tons represented more than 25% of combined VOCs emitted by these 105 stationary emission sources. There are no federal regulations addressing lightering emissions; however, several California Air Districts have had regulations in place since the early 1990's. This planned regulatory action would establish requirements similar to these California regulations.
- 3. **Statutory Basis:** 7 Del. C., Chapter 60, Environmental Control.
- 4. **Likely Affected Public:** Currently, Maritrans Inc. is the only known owner or operator engaged in lightering operations in Delaware waters.
- 5. **Proposed Schedule of Activities:**

Review Committee (1Q01)	Public Hearing (3Q01)	Effective Date (4Q01)
Public Workshop (2Q01)	Adoption (3Q01)	Public Notification (4Q01)
- 6. **Review Committee:** The proposed regulatory action to reduce the presently uncontrolled VOC emissions during lightering brings the potential risks of fire, explosion and liquid spill into Delaware waters with it. For these reasons, a review committee will be established. Besides the obvious representation, AQM, USCG and Maritrans, representation from the American Lung Association, Tri-State Bird Rescue, local refineries, Delaware Bay & River Coop and Delaware Petroleum Council will be considered. Within DNREC, representation from Parks & Recreation (Henlopen), Soil & Water (CZ, Shoreline) and Fish & Wildlife will be sought.
- 7. **Responsible Staff Member:** James R. Snead  
Delaware DNREC  
Air Quality Management  
715 Grantham Lane  
New Castle, DE 19720  
**Phone:** (302) 323-4542  
**Fax:** (302) 323-4598  
**Email:** jsnead@state.de.us

8. **APPROVALS:**

<i>J. R. Snead</i>	12/12/00	<i>Nicholas J. Pasquale</i>	1/12/01
Responsible Staff Member	Date	Division Director	Date