

17.0 REGULATION OF VISIBLE EMISSIONS

17.1 Visible Emissions Prohibited - Stationary Sources

After the effective date of these regulations, no person shall cause, suffer, allow, or permit discharge from any single source visible emissions of an opacity in excess of 20 percent for a six (6) minute average, except that opacity of emissions from nontraditional sources (roads and parking areas) shall be determined by Tennessee Air Pollution Control Method I.

17.2 Visible Emissions Prohibited - Mobile Sources

- A. After the effective date of these regulations, no person shall cause, suffer, allow, or permit any visible emissions from gasoline-powered motor vehicles except for a period not exceeding five (5) consecutive seconds.
- B. After the effective date of these regulations, no person shall cause, suffer, allow, or permit any visible emissions greater than 20 percent opacity except for periods not exceeding five (5) consecutive seconds for diesel-powered motor vehicles.

17.3 Visible Emissions Prohibited - Nontraditional Sources

After the effective date of these regulations, no person shall cause, suffer, allow, or permit the generation from any road or parking area visible emissions of an opacity in excess of 20 percent to be determined by Tennessee Visible Emissions Evaluation Method I, as amended, by the Tennessee Division of Air Pollution Control.

17.4 Exceptions

- A. Visible emissions consisting of uncombined water droplets unless, in the opinion of the Director, the water droplets cause air pollution.
- B. Section 17.1 shall not apply to fossil fuel-burning equipment used exclusively for heating the dwellings occupied by two or less family units.
- C. Visible emissions from any source may be permitted during the cleaning of a fire, the building of a new fire, or the blowing of soot from boilers; of an opacity not in excess of 60 percent for a period aggregating no more than five (5) minutes in any 60 consecutive minutes, nor more than twenty (20) minutes in any 24-hour period.
- D. These exceptions apply only to visible emissions from fuel-burning sources used to provide space heating or in production of process steam.

- E. Upon mutual agreement of any air contaminant source and the Director, an emission limit more restrictive than that otherwise specified in the Knox County Air Quality Management Regulations may be established. Also, upon mutual agreement of any air contaminant source and the Director, operating hours, process flow rates, or any other operating parameter may be established as a binding limit which the source must adhere to. Any items mutually agreed to shall be stated as a special condition for any permit or order concerning the source. Violations of this mutual agreement shall result in revocation of the issued permit. In addition to these provisions the following criteria must be met by any such agreements and the associated permits:
1. Operating permit holders must adhere to the terms and limitations of such permits (or subsequent revision of the permit made in accordance with the approved operating permit program), and any such permits which do not confirm to the operating permit program requirements and the requirements of EPA's underlying regulations may be deemed not "federally enforceable" by EPA.
 2. All emission limitations, controls, and other requirements imposed by such permits will be at least as stringent as any other applicable limitations and requirements contained in the State Implementation Plan (SIP) or enforceable under the SIP, the Department may not issue permits that waive, or make less stringent, any limitations or requirements contained in or issued pursuant to the SIP, or that are otherwise "federally enforceable" (e.g. standards established under Sections 111 and 112 of the Clean Air Act).
 3. The limitations, controls, and requirements in the operating permits are permanent, quantifiable, and otherwise enforceable as a practical matter.
 4. The permits are issued subject to public participation. This means that the Department will provide EPA and the public with a timely notice of the proposal and issuance of such permits, and to provide EPA, on a timely basis, with a copy of each proposed (or draft) and final permit intended to be federally enforceable. This process must also provide for an opportunity for public comment on the permit applications prior to issuance of the final permit. Timely notice will be at least 30 days.