

DEPARTMENT OF THE
AIR FORCE
IN THE UNITED STATES

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ADDRESS UNKNOWN

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to control the auto emissions the EPA has announced the promulgation of new regulations on lead additives. These will restrict the average lead content in all grades of gasoline as follows [71]:

- 1.7 grams per gallon (gpg) by January 1, 1975
- 1.4 gpg by January 1, 1976
- 1.0 gpg by January 1, 1977
- 0.8 gpg by January 1, 1978
- 0.5 gpg by January 1, 1979

According to EPA estimates these low-lead regulations would increase total crude oil consumption in 1980 by only 0.4%. The impact of this increase on fuel use would be insignificant. The new regulations provide a two-year delay, until July 1, 1977, for small refineries to make the appropriate changes.

Emergency Episode Ruling. According to health studies sponsored by the EPA and other agencies exposure to 1,000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.5 ppm) of photochemical oxidants (Ox) can cause breathing difficulty and chest pains in normally healthy persons. On account of this the EPA revised its national air pollution emergency standards. The proposed 1-hr exposure levels for Ox are [72]:

Significant harm	at 1,200 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.6 ppm)
Emergency	at 1,000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.5 ppm)
Warning	at 800 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.4 ppm)
Alert	at 200 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.1 ppm)

The "significant harm" levels represent air pollutant concentrations that should be prevented from ever being reached. Therefore states are required to have an additional contingency plan that goes in effect whenever ambient concentrations approach the "significant harm" level.

Ban of Vinyl Chloride. Vinyl chloride (VC), a colorless gas derived from chlorine, is the major ingredient in a multitude of such materials as plastic containers, floor tiles, phonograph records, and plastic curtains, etc. A \$90 billion industry with more than two million jobs is dependent upon this substance. Recently VC has been linked to angiosarcoma, a rare form of liver cancer. Thus the Occupational Safety and Health Adminis-

tration stepped in and employers must not be exposed on a working day (as compared with VC), or to 5 ppm. Since VC is not used in the production process, it is not burned in open flames. It is declared it a hazardous substance of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, the Consumer Product Safety Act, self-pressurized household gas, a refrigerant or in the production of

Regulations on Pesticides. Fungicide, the maintenance of pesticide production will be effective October 17, 1974 [74].

Regulations on Plutonium. EPA announced its new rules to evaluate and transuranium elements. Public hearings are necessary technical

Manpower and Funding. Budget (OMB) has grants to state and in fiscal year 1976. pollution control show fees.' This could weaken local control efforts. for air pollution management ensure an adequate

The National Academy of Sciences The EPA a three-year

has announced the promulgation of these regulations. These will restrict the average concentration of gasoline as follows [71]:

gpg) by January 1, 1975

1976

1977

1978

1979

These low-lead regulations would reduce lead exposure in 1980 by only 0.4%. Lead use would be insignificant. There is a two-year delay, until July 1, to make the appropriate changes.

According to health studies sponsored by the EPA, exposure to 1,000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ of lead (Pb) can cause breathing problems in healthy persons. On an annual basis, national air pollution emergency response levels for Pb are

1,000 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.6 ppm)

500 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.5 ppm)

200 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.4 ppm)

100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (0.1 ppm)

These represent air pollutant concentrations far from ever being reached. There is an additional contingency for ambient concentrations above these levels.

vinyl chloride (VC), a colorless gas, is a major ingredient in a multitude of products, including floor tiles, phonograph records, and many others.

A \$90 billion industry with a heavy dependence upon this substance. Angiosarcoma, a rare form of cancer, has been linked to VC. The U.S. Environmental Safety and Health Administration

stepped in and ruled that, starting January 1, 1975, workers must not be exposed to more than 1 ppm of VC per 8-hr working day (as compared to the presently permitted 50 ppm of VC), or to 5 ppm of VC for a period of less than 15 minutes. Since VC is not only emitted into the ambient air during the production process, but almost ubiquitously when plastics are burned in open dumps or incinerators, the EPA has declared it a hazardous pollutant. Furthermore, under the provisions of the Federal Hazardous Substances Act, the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, and the Consumer Product Safety Act, the Consumer Product Safety Commission has banned all self-pressurized household products containing VC as an ingredient or in the propellant effective October 7, 1974 [73].

Regulations on Pesticides. Under the amended Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act the EPA prescribes the maintenance of books and records for the inspection of pesticide production and distribution. The new regulations will be effective October 18, 1974, and shall be enforced December 17, 1974 [74].

Regulations on Plutonium and Transuranium Elements. The EPA announced its intent to review the need for establishing new rules to evaluate the environmental impact of plutonium and transuranium elements [75]. Technical symposia and public hearings are scheduled for the purpose of obtaining the necessary technical data.

Manpower and Funding. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has proposed to the EPA to phase out federal grants to state and local air pollution control agencies starting in fiscal year 1976. Instead, the Office suggests that local air pollution control should be funded with 'user taxes' or 'permit fees.' This could well result in a conflict of interests and weaken local control efforts. The decision of cutting federal support for air pollution manpower development should be reversed to ensure an adequate force of competent control personnel.

The National Academy of Sciences was recently awarded by the EPA a three-year \$5 million contract to assess the costs, bene-