

Summary of Amendments to the National Perchloroethylene (perc) Dry Cleaner Regulation Published July 27, 2006

The following is a brief overview of the federal rule amendments.* Please refer to the Federal Register (71 FR 42724) and the regulation (40 CFR Part 63 Subpart M) to fully understand your obligations under the rule.

The final rule affects three types of dry cleaners that use perc:

1. **Large industrial and commercial dry cleaners** - classified as “major sources,” meaning they emit more than 10 tons of perc a year or the facility uses more than 2100 gallons of perc a year (if operating only dry to dry machines) or more than 1800 gallons of perc a year (if operating transfer machines).
2. **Small dry cleaners (not co-located with a residence)** – classified as “area sources” because they emit less than 10 tons of perc a year or the facility uses less than 2100 gallons of perc a year (if operating only dry to dry machines) or less than 1800 gallons of perc a year (if operating transfer machines).
3. **Dry cleaners located in residential buildings** – are dry cleaners located in a building with a residence.

Small Dry Cleaners Requirements (not co-located with a residence)

Existing small dry cleaners which commenced construction before December 21, 2005 must:

- a. **By July 27, 2008, eliminate all transfer machines** requiring the movement of wet clothes from one machine to another for drying.
- b. **Beginning on July 27, 2008, monitor leaks monthly using a halogenated hydrocarbon detector or a perc gas analyzer to detect perc leaks**, in addition to weekly or biweekly perceptible leak checks. Facilities must start repair of any leaks within 2 working days, complete repair within 5 working days and maintain records.

New small drycleaners which commenced construction on or after December 21, 2005 must:

- a. On July 27, 2006 or upon startup, whichever is later, new small dry cleaners **must install carbon adsorbers** (devices that reduce perc vapors exiting the dry cleaning machine as the machine door is opened), in addition to installing a refrigerated condenser on a closed-loop machine.
- b. On July 27, 2006 or upon startup, whichever is later, new small dry cleaners **must monitor leaks monthly using a halogenated hydrocarbon detector or a perc gas analyzer to detect perc leaks**, in addition to weekly or biweekly perceptible leak checks. Facilities must

start repair of any leaks within 2 days, complete repair within 5 working days and maintain records.

Dry Cleaners in a Building with a Residence

Existing dry cleaners in a building with a residence which commenced construction before December 21, 2005 must:

- a. **By July 27, 2008, eliminate transfer machines** and meet the same monitoring, leak detection and repair, and recordkeeping requirements as small dry cleaners.
- b. **By December 21, 2020, remove all perc dry cleaning equipment** from the building.

New dry cleaners in a building with a residence which commenced construction on or after **December 21, 2005 but before July 13, 2006** must:

- a. Beginning on July 27, 2006, install equipment to aggressively control perc emissions (i.e., refrigerated condensers, carbon adsorbers, and vapor barriers).
- b. Beginning on July 27, 2006, monitor leaks **weekly** using a halogenated hydrocarbon detector or a perc gas analyzer to detect perc leaks, in addition to weekly or biweekly perceptible leak checks. Facilities must start repair of any leaks within 2 days, complete repair within 5 working days and maintain records.
- c. Completely eliminate perc use by July 27, 2009.

As of July 13, 2006, new perc drycleaners are not allowed to be installed in a building with a residence.

Large Industrial and Commercial Major Source Dry Cleaners

The final rule requires new and existing major source industrial and commercial perc dry cleaners to use state-of-the-art equipment to detect perc leaks from the machines, repair the leaks and maintain records.

Reporting Requirements for All Dry Cleaning Facilities

By July 28, 2008, all perc dry cleaning facilities must submit a Notification of Compliance Status Report by registered mail to EPA and/or the delegated state. The report must include:

- (1) The name and address of the owner or operator;
- (2) The address (that is, physical location) of the dry cleaning facility;

- (3) If they are located in a building with a residence(s), even if the residence is vacant at the time of this notification;
- (4) If they are located in a building with no other tenants, leased space, or owner occupants;
- (5) Whether they are a major or area source;
- (6) The yearly PCE solvent consumption based upon the yearly solvent consumption calculated according to Sec. 63.323(d);
- (7) Whether or not they are in compliance with each applicable requirement of Sec. 63.322; and
- (8) All information contained in the statement is accurate and true.

***State rules may be more stringent.**