Message

From: Thompson, Lisa [Thompson.Lisa@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/9/2018 2:48:04 PM
To: Kler, Denis [Kler.Denis@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: NSPS Subpart OOOOa Clarification Request

Thanks Denis! Glad to get this off our plate!

From: Kler, Denis
Sent: Friday, March 9, 2018 9:47 AM
To: Kelsey, Rick <RKelsey@adem.alabama.gov>
Cc: Cranford, Brandon <BRC@adem.alabama.gov>; McAfee, James <JMcAfee@adem.alabama.gov>; Thompson, Lisa <Thompson.Lisa@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NSPS Subpart OOOOa Clarification Request

Rick,
Thank you for your patience concerning this matter. I needed assistance, and I was fortunate enough to have persons from Headquarters and other Regional Offices providing their knowledge and expertise in responding to your questions concerning these regulations. The responses to your questions are based on our understanding of the information you provided in your email, and our responses are not to be considered a formal EPA determination. However, if would you like a formal determination, I would be more than happy to provide you with the information to begin that process. I hope the responses (below in red) help, and if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.
Best regards,
Denis Kler

Denis B. Kler
U.S. EPA Region 4
APTMD/AETB/North Air Enforcement and Toxics Section
Work: 404.562.9199
Fax: 404.562.9163

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From: Thompson, Lisa
Sent: Friday, March 09, 2018 9:16 AM
To: Kelsey, Rick <RKelsey@adem.alabama.gov>
Cc: Cranford, Brandon <BRC@adem.alabama.gov>; McAfee, James <JMcAfee@adem.alabama.gov>; Kler, Denis <Kler.Denis@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NSPS Subpart OOOOa Clarification Request

Hi Rick –

Apologize for the delay. We're almost there, and you should be hearing from your EPA Region 4 contact, Denis Kler (copied here), shortly.

Thanks, and let me know if there's anything else I can assist with.

Lisa Thompson

From: Thompson, Lisa
Sent: Monday, March 5, 2018 3:15 PM
To: 'Kelsey, Rick' <RKelsey@adem.alabama.gov>
Cc: Cranford, Brandon <BRC@adem.alabama.gov>; McAfee, James <JMcAfee@adem.alabama.gov>; Hambrick, Amy <Hambrick.Amy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NSPS Subpart OOOOa Clarification Request

Hi Rick –

These answers are still being run up the chain here at EPA. Should hear something soon. Thanks for your patience.

Lisa

From: Kelsey, Rick [mailto:RKelsey@adem.alabama.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 5, 2018 2:51 PM
To: Thompson, Lisa <Thompson.Lisa@epa.gov>
Cc: Cranford, Brandon <BRC@adem.alabama.gov>; McAfee, James <JMcAfee@adem.alabama.gov>; Hambrick, Amy <Hambrick.Amy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NSPS Subpart OOOOa Clarification Request

Ms. Thomson,

I wanted to follow up with you after our phone conversation last week to discuss the email below in greater detail. During our conversation, it sounded as though you may be able to respond by the end of last week. We are currently working on an application determination that would be significantly helped with responses to the questions listed below. Thanks for your help in this matter. Should you have any questions, please let me know.

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From: Kelsey, Rick
Sent: Friday, February 23, 2018 4:58 PM
To: 'hambrick.amy@epa.gov' <hambrick.amy@epa.gov>; 'thompson.lisa@epa.gov' <thompson.lisa@epa.gov>
Cc: Cranford, Brandon <BRC@adem.alabama.gov>; McAfee, James <JMcAfee@adem.alabama.gov>
Subject: NSPS Subpart OOOOa Clarification Request

Ms. Amy Hambrick and/or Ms. Lisa Thompson,

The ADEM Air Division recently received a request from the EPA regarding the specific sources in Alabama that are subject to the NSPS Subpart OOOOa, Standards of Performance for Crude Oil and Natural Gas facilities for which Construction, Modification or Reconstruction Commenced After September 18, 2015. To correctly determine the facility universe subject to this NSPS, we would appreciate some clarification concerning a few issues that relate to our Unit, particularly how this NSPS applies to the Coalbed Methane Industry.

1. **Servicing more than one well** - §60.5365a(c) states that *"Each reciprocating compressor affected facility, which is a single reciprocating compressor. A reciprocating compressor located at a well site, or an adjacent well site and servicing more than one well site, is not an affected facility under this subpart."*

   Does this mean that a reciprocating compressor that services more than one well site is not an affected facility whether it is located on a well site or not? We are seeing different interpretations for this regulatory citation across the Coalbed Methane industry.

A reciprocating compressor that services more than one well site is not an affected facility, if it is located at a well site. If it is not located at a well site, it would be an affected facility.

2. **Installation Date** - In determining applicability between NSPS Subpart OOOO and NSPS Subpart OOOOa, is the applicability date determined by the actual reciprocating compressor installation date or the engine installation date?

   For example, if a reciprocating compressor and the engine that powers the reciprocating compressor were installed in 2012, (subject to NSPS, Subpart OOOO), and the engine that powers the reciprocating compressor was replaced in 2016, would the compressor remain subject to NSPS Subpart OOOO or are they now subject to NSPS Subpart OOOOa?

For purposes of the standards for reciprocating compressors in subparts OOOO and OOOOa, the affected facility is the compressor, not the engine. See 40 CFR 60.5365(c) and 60.5365a(c). The engine could come into play if the replacement of the engine resulted in an emissions increase to the atmosphere from the compressor such that it was determined a modification occurred pursuant to §60.14. Additionally, the EPA intends that the "commence construction" date for a reciprocating compressor affected facility to be the date an owner or operator has entered into a contractual obligation to acquire the compressor, not the installation date. We clarified this in the August 16, 2012, final NSPS OOOO rule (see 79 FR 59423). Therefore, the date the owner or operator entered into a contractual obligation to purchase the compressor determines applicability to the NSPS.

3. **Increase in horsepower** - In determining the applicability to the collection of fugitive emission components at a compressor station for the purpose of §60.5397a, it states that a modification to a compressor station occurs when *"(2) One or more compressors at a compressor station is replaced by one or more compressors of a greater total horsepower that the compressor(s) being replaced. When one or more compressors is replaced by one or more compressors of an equal or smaller total horsepower than the compressor(s) does not trigger a modification of the compressor station for the purpose of §60.5397a."*

   Does this refer to the engine that powers the compressor or the compressor only, since Subpart OOOOa never mentions engines? Compressors are typically rated for a max horsepower matched to a similar sized engine. If the compressor is rated at 1000 hp and the engine is 500 hp and they replace the engine with a 600 hp without changing the compressor, does that trigger a modification as defined by §60.5365a(j)?

You asked two questions:
Q1:Does this refer to the engine that powers the compressor or the compressor only, since Subpart OOOOa never mentions engines?

A1: You are correct that the engine is related to the HP of the compressor. However, the rule applies to the HP of the compressors at the compressor station. We evaluate HP increase of the compressor station as a modification, regardless of whether the compressors are driven by electric motors, combustion turbines, or reciprocating internal combustion engines.

Q2: If the compressor is rated at 1000 hp and the engine is 500 hp and they replace the engine with a 600 hp without changing the compressor, does that trigger a modification as defined by §60.5365a(j)?
A2: No. The replacement of an engine with one of greater HP would not trigger modification of the compressor station for the purposes of §60.5365a(j), if the design capacity of the compressor to which it powers, was not increased.
When one or more compressors is added or replaced such that the total horsepower of the compressors at an existing compressor station is increased, modification of the compressor station is triggered, and the fugitive emissions requirements in §60.5397a of subpart OOOOa would then apply. Some additional information which may be helpful may be found at 81 FR 35864:
The EPA agrees that an increase in the compression capacity that is not due to the addition of a compressor that would result in an increase of the overall design capacity of the compressor station is not a modification. For example, a compressor station may have to increase the operating throughput by bringing existing compressors on-line to meet demand during peak seasons. In such a case, the compressors' capacities are already accounted for in the overall design capacity for the compressor station, and bringing them on-line would not increase the overall design capacity nor would it increase the potential emissions of the compressor station.

I greatly appreciate any help/clarification that you can provide as we move forward with this NSPS regulation and the applicability towards the Coalbed Methane Industry. Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Brandon Cranford at 334-271-7893 or by email at brc@adem.alabama.gov or James McAfee at (334) 394-4388 or by email at jmcafee@adem.alabama.gov.

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