

determines that the already interred casket would not be damaged.

### Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Secretary certifies that this proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities as they are defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601–612. The proposed rule would not affect the sale of outer burial receptacles. Further, the basic provisions of the proposed rule reflect statutory requirements. Accordingly, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), the proposed rule is exempt from the initial and final regulatory flexibility analyses requirements of sections 603 and 604.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for programs affected by this regulation is 64.201.

### List of Subjects in 38 CFR Part 1

Administrative practice and procedure, Archives and records, Cemeteries, Claims, Courts, Flags, Freedom of information, Government contracts, Government employees, Government property, Infants and children, Inventions and patents, Investigations, Parking, Penalties, Postal Service, Privacy, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Seals and insignia, Security measures, wages.

Approved: March 13, 2000.

**Togo D. West, Jr.,**

*Secretary of Veterans Affairs.*

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 38 CFR part 1 is proposed to be amended as follows:

### PART 1—GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The authority citation for part 1 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 38 U.S.C. 501(a), unless otherwise noted.

2. Section 1.629 is added to read as follows:

#### **§ 1.629 Monetary allowance in lieu of a government-furnished outer burial receptacle.**

(a) *Definitions. Outer Burial Receptacle.* For the purpose of this section, an outer burial receptacle means a graveliner, burial vault, or other similar type of container for a casket.

(b) *Purpose.* This section provides for payment of a monetary allowance for an outer burial receptacle for any interment in a VA national cemetery where a privately-purchased outer burial receptacle has been used in lieu of a government-furnished graveliner.

(c) *Second Interments.* In burials where a casket already exists in a grave with or without a graveliner, placement

of a second casket in an outer burial receptacle will not be permitted in the same grave unless the national cemetery director determines that the already interred casket will not be damaged.

(d) *Payment of monetary allowance.* VA will pay a monetary allowance for each burial in a VA national cemetery where a privately-purchased outer burial receptacle was used on and after October 9, 1996. For burials on or after January 1, 2000, the person identified in records contained in the National Cemetery Administration Burial Operations Support System as the person who privately purchased the outer burial receptacle will be paid the monetary allowance. For burials during the period October 9, 1996, through December 31, 1999, the allowance will be paid to the person identified as the next of kin in records contained in the National Cemetery Administration Burial Operations Support System based on the presumption that such person privately purchased the outer burial receptacles (however, if a person who is not listed as the next of kin provides evidence that he or she privately purchased the outer burial receptacle, the allowance will be paid instead to that person). No application is required to receive payment of a monetary allowance.

(e) *Amount of the allowance.* (1) For calendar year 2000 and each calendar year thereafter, the allowance will be the average cost, as determined by VA, of government-furnished graveliners, less the administrative costs incurred by VA in processing and paying the allowance.

(i) The average cost of government-furnished graveliners will be based upon the actual average cost to the government of such graveliners during the most recent fiscal year ending prior to the start of the calendar year for which the amount of the allowance will be used. This average cost will be determined by taking VA's total cost during that fiscal year for single-depth graveliners which were procured for placement at the time of interment and dividing it by the total number of such graveliners procured by VA during that fiscal year. The calculation shall exclude both graveliners procured and pre-placed in gravesites as part of cemetery gravesite development projects and all double-depth graveliners.

(ii) The administrative costs incurred by VA will consist of those costs that relate to processing and paying an allowance, as determined by VA, for the calendar year ending prior to the start of the calendar year for which the amount of the allowance will be used.

(2) For calendar year 2000 and each calendar year thereafter, the amount of the allowance for each calendar year will be published in the "Notices" section of the **Federal Register**. The **Federal Register** Notice will also provide, as information, the determined average cost of government-furnished graveliners and the determined amount of the administrative costs to be deducted.

(3) The published allowance amount for interments which occur during calendar year 2000 will also be used for payment of any allowances for interments which occurred during the period from October 9, 1996, through December 31, 1999.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 2306(d)).

[FR Doc. 00–9602 Filed 4–17–00; 8:45 am]

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### 40 CFR Part 52

[PA 4091b; FRL–6569–1]

#### **Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Approval of VOC and NOx RACT Determinations for Individual Sources**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is proposing to approve revisions to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's State Implementation Plan (SIP). The revisions impose reasonably available control technology (RACT) on twenty-six major sources of volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) located in Pennsylvania. EPA is proposing these revisions to establish RACT requirements in accordance with the Clean Air Act. In the "Rules and Regulations" section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving the State's SIP submittal as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial submittal and anticipates no adverse comments. A more detailed description of the state submittal and EPA's evaluation are included in the Technical Support Documents (TSD) prepared in support of this rulemaking action. A copy of the TSD's are available, upon request, from the EPA Regional Office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document. If EPA receives no adverse comments, EPA will not take further action on this proposed rule. If EPA

receives adverse comments, EPA will withdraw the direct final rule and it will not take effect. EPA will address all public comments in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received by May 18, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments on this action should be addressed to Kathleen Henry, Chief, Permits and Technical Assessment Branch, Air Protection Division, Mailcode 3AP11, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. Copies of the documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Air Protection Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103; and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Air Quality Control, P.O. Box 8468, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kelly L. Bunker at (215) 814-2177, for information on sources #1-18 (or via e-mail at [bunker.kelly@epa.gov](mailto:bunker.kelly@epa.gov)) or Melik Spain at (215) 814-2299 for information on sources #19-26 (or via e-mail at [spain.melik@epa.gov](mailto:spain.melik@epa.gov)). While information may be requested via e-mail, any comments must be submitted in writing to the above Region III address.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** For further information concerning this action to propose approval of VOC and NOx RACT determinations for twenty-six individual sources in Pennsylvania as a revision to the Commonwealth's SIP, please see the information provided in the direct final action, of the same Title, that is located in the "Rules and Regulations" section of this **Federal Register** publication.

Dated: March 19, 2000.

**Bradley M. Campbell,**

*Regional Administrator, Region III.*

[FR Doc. 00-9383 Filed 4-17-00; 8:45 am]

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### 40 CFR Part 52

[ME-003-01-7004b; A-1-FRL-6572-7]

#### Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maine; RACT for VOC sources

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is proposing to approve several State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions submitted by the State of Maine. EPA is also proposing a limited approval of one regulation submitted as a SIP revision by the State of Maine. These SIP revisions establish requirements for certain facilities which emit volatile organic compounds (VOCs). In the Final Rules section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving these SIP revisions as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to that direct final rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this proposed rule. If EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this proposal. Any parties interested in commenting on this proposal should do so at this time.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before May 18, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to David Conroy, Unit Manager, Air Quality Planning Unit (mail code CAQ), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, One Congress Street, Suite 1100, Boston, MA 02114-2023. Copies of the State submittal and EPA's technical support document are available for public inspection during normal business hours, by appointment at the Office of Ecosystem Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, One Congress Street, 11th floor, Boston and the Bureau of Air Quality Control, Department of Environmental Protection, 71 Hospital Street, Augusta, ME 04333.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Anne E. Arnold, (617) 918-1047, [arnold.anne@epa.gov](mailto:arnold.anne@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** For additional information, see the direct

final rule which is located in the Rules section of this **Federal Register**.

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: March 24, 2000.

**Mindy S. Lubber,**

*Regional Administrator, EPA New England.*

[FR Doc. 00-9538 Filed 4-17-00; 8:45 am]

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### 40 CFR Parts 435

[FRL-6581-1]

#### Effluent Limitations Guidelines for the Oil and Gas Extraction Point Source Category; Announcement of Meeting

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Announcement of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** EPA will conduct a public meeting on the upcoming Synthetic-based Drilling Fluids (SBFs) rulemaking on Tuesday, April 25, 2000, from 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Central Standard Time.

The Office of Science and Technology within EPA's Office of Water is holding the public meeting to inform all interested parties of the current status of the SBF effluent guideline. EPA intends to finalize effluent limitations guidelines and standards regarding these fluids (used in the oil and gas extraction industrial category) in December 2000. EPA plans to publish a Notice of Data Availability for this rulemaking very shortly. At the meeting on April 25, EPA will report on the status of the rulemaking; new data submissions available for public comment; revised economic and engineering models and results incorporating the new data; descriptions of "best management practices" (BMPs) as potential alternative requirements to reduce the discharges of toxic and hazardous pollutants; and paperwork requirements associated with implementation of the BMP alternative compliance methods. EPA will use this meeting to solicit public comment on any of the issues or information presented in the notice of data availability and in the administrative record supporting the notice.

**DATES:** EPA will conduct the SBF public meeting on Tuesday, April 25, 2000, from 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Central Standard Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The SBF public meeting will be held at the Minerals Management Service (MMS), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region Office, Room 111,