

15A NCAC 02Q .0702 EXEMPTIONS

(a) A permit to emit toxic air pollutants shall not be required under this Section for:

- (1) residential wood stoves, heaters, or fireplaces;
- (2) hot water heaters that are used for domestic purposes only and are not used to heat process water;
- (3) maintenance, structural changes, or repairs that do not change capacity of that process, fuel-burning, refuse-burning, or control equipment, and do not involve any change in quality or nature or increase in quantity of emission of any regulated air pollutant or toxic air pollutant;
- (4) housekeeping activities or building maintenance procedures, including painting buildings, resurfacing floors, roof repair, washing, portable vacuum cleaners, sweeping, use and associated storage of janitorial products, or non-asbestos bearing insulation removal;
- (5) use of office supplies, supplies to maintain copying equipment, or blueprint machines;
- (6) paving parking lots;
- (7) replacement of existing equipment with equipment of the same size, type, and function if the new equipment:
 - (A) does not result in an increase to the actual or potential emissions of any regulated air pollutant or toxic air pollutant;
 - (B) does not affect compliance status; and
 - (C) fits the description of the existing equipment in the permit, including the application, such that the replacement equipment can be operated under that permit without any changes to the permit;
- (8) comfort air conditioning or comfort ventilation systems that do not transport, remove, or exhaust regulated air pollutants to the atmosphere;
- (9) equipment used for the preparation of food for direct on-site human consumption;
- (10) non-self-propelled non-road engines, except generators, regulated by rules adopted under Title II of the federal Clean Air Act;
- (11) stacks or vents to prevent escape of sewer gases from domestic waste through plumbing traps;
- (12) use of fire fighting equipment;
- (13) the use for agricultural operations by a farmer of fertilizers, pesticides, or other agricultural chemicals containing one or more of the compounds listed in 15A NCAC 02D .1104 if such compounds are applied according to agronomic practices acceptable to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture;
- (14) asbestos demolition and renovation projects that comply with 15A NCAC 02D .1110 and that are being done by persons accredited by the Department of Health and Human Services under the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act;
- (15) incinerators used only to dispose of dead animals or poultry as identified in 15A NCAC 02D .1201(c)(4) or incinerators used only to dispose of dead pets as identified in 15A NCAC 02D .1208(a)(2)(A);
- (16) refrigeration equipment that is consistent with Section 601 through 618 of Title VI (Stratospheric Ozone Protection) of the federal Clean Air Act, 40 CFR Part 82, and any other regulations promulgated by EPA under Title VI for stratospheric ozone protection, except those units used as or with air pollution control equipment;
- (17) laboratory activities:
 - (A) bench-scale, on-site equipment used exclusively for chemical or physical analysis for quality control purposes, staff instruction, water or wastewater analyses, or non-production environmental compliance assessments;
 - (B) bench scale experimentation, chemical or physical analyses, training or instruction from nonprofit, non-production educational laboratories;
 - (C) bench scale experimentation, chemical or physical analyses, training or instruction from hospital or health laboratories pursuant to the determination or diagnoses of illnesses; and
 - (D) research and development laboratory activities that are not required to be permitted under Section .0500 of this Subchapter provided the activity produces no commercial product or feedstock material;
- (18) combustion sources as defined in 15 NCAC 02Q .0703 until 18 months after promulgation of the MACT or GACT standards for combustion sources. (Within 18 months following promulgation of the MACT or GACT standards for combustion sources, the Commission shall decide whether to keep or

remove the combustion source exemption. If the Commission decides to remove the exemption, it shall initiate rulemaking procedures to remove this exemption.)

- (19) storage tanks used only to store:
 - (A) inorganic liquids with a true vapor pressure less than 1.5 pounds per square inch absolute;
 - (B) fuel oils, kerosene, diesel, crude oil, used motor oil, lubricants, cooling oils, natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, or petroleum products with a true vapor pressure less than 1.5 pounds per square inch absolute;
- (20) dispensing equipment used solely to dispense diesel fuel, kerosene, lubricants or cooling oils;
- (21) portable solvent distillation systems that are exempted under 15A NCAC 02Q .0102(c)(1)(I).
- (22) processes:
 - (A) electric motor burn-out ovens with secondary combustion chambers or afterburners;
 - (B) electric motor bake-on ovens;
 - (C) burn-off ovens for paint-line hangers with afterburners;
 - (D) hosiery knitting machines and associated lint screens, hosiery dryers and associated lint screens, and hosiery dyeing processes where bleach or solvent dyes are not used;
 - (E) blade wood planers planing only green wood;
 - (F) saw mills that saw no more than 2,000,000 board feet per year provided only green wood is sawed;
 - (G) perchloroethylene drycleaning processes with 12-month rolling total consumption of:
 - (i) less than 1366 gallons of perchloroethylene per year for facilities with dry-to-dry machines only;
 - (ii) less than 1171 gallons of perchloroethylene per year for facilities with transfer machines only; or
 - (iii) less than 1171 gallons of perchloroethylene per year for facilities with both transfer and dry-to-dry machines;
- (23) wood furniture manufacturing operations as defined in 40 CFR 63.801(a) that comply with the emission limitations and other requirements of 40 CFR Part 63 Subpart JJ, provided that the terms of this exclusion shall not affect the authority of the Director under 15A NCAC 02Q .0712;
- (24) wastewater treatment systems at pulp and paper mills for hydrogen sulfide and methyl mercaptan only;
- (25) gasoline dispensing facilities or gasoline service station operations that comply with 15A NCAC 02D .0928 and .0932 and that receive gasoline from bulk gasoline plants or bulk gasoline terminals that comply with 15A NCAC 02D .0524, .0925, .0926, .0927, .0932, and .0933 via tank trucks that comply with 15A NCAC 02D .0932;
- (26) the use of ethylene oxide as a sterilant in the production and subsequent storage of medical devices or the packaging and subsequent storage of medical devices for sale if the emissions from all new and existing sources at the facility described in 15A NCAC 02D .0538(d) are controlled at least to the degree described in 15A NCAC 02D .0538(d) and the facility complies with 15A NCAC 02D .0538(e) and (f);
- (27) bulk gasoline plants, including the storage and handling of fuel oils, kerosenes, and jet fuels but excluding the storage and handling of other organic liquids, that comply with 15A NCAC 02D .0524, .0925, .0926, .0932, and .0933; unless the Director finds that a permit to emit toxic air pollutants is required under Paragraph (b) of this Rule or Rule .0712 of this Section for a particular bulk gasoline plant; or
- (28) bulk gasoline terminals, including the storage and handling of fuel oils, kerosenes, and jet fuels but excluding the storage and handling of other organic liquids, that comply with 15A NCAC 02D .0524, .0925, .0927, .0932, and .0933 if the bulk gasoline terminal existed before November 1, 1992; unless:
 - (A) the Director finds that a permit to emit toxic air pollutants is required under Paragraph (b) of this Rule or Rule .0712 of this Section for a particular bulk gasoline terminal, or
 - (B) the owner or operator of the bulk gasoline terminal meets the requirements of 15A NCAC 02D .0927(i).

(b) Emissions from the activities identified in Subparagraphs (a)(25) through (a)(28) of this Rule shall be included in determining compliance with the toxic air pollutant requirements in this Section and shall be included in the permit if necessary to assure compliance. Emissions from the activities identified in Subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(24) of this Rule shall not be included in determining compliance with the toxic air pollutant requirements in this Section.

(c) The addition or modification of an activity identified in Paragraph (a) of this Rule shall not cause the source or facility to be evaluated for emissions of toxic air pollutants.

(d) Because an activity is exempted from being required to have a permit does not mean that the activity is exempted from any applicable requirement or that the owner or operator of the source is exempted from demonstrating compliance with any applicable requirement.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 143-215.3(a)(1); 143-215.108; 143B-282; S.L. 1989, c. 168, s. 45;
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