

§585-B. Hazardous air pollutant standards

1. Standards. The board may establish and amend emission standards for hazardous air pollutants, and regulations to implement these standards. If emission standards are not feasible, the board may adopt design, equipment, work practice or operational standards for activities emitting hazardous pollutants.

[PL 1989, c. 144, §5 (AMD).]

2. Procedure. All standards and regulations under this section shall be adopted in conformance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, except as provided in this section. Prior to the establishment or amendment of these standards and regulations, the board shall conduct a public hearing to receive testimony on:

A. Any health risk assessment on the pollutants proposed to be controlled that has been conducted by the Department of Health and Human Services; [PL 1983, c. 535, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6 (REV).]

B. The extent to which the public is exposed to the pollutant; [PL 1983, c. 535, §2 (NEW).]

C. The availability, effectiveness and cost of any air pollution control apparatus designed to prevent or control the emissions of hazardous pollutants; and [PL 1983, c. 535, §2 (NEW).]

D. Any other information that would assist the board in establishing standards adequate to protect the public health and safety. [PL 1983, c. 535, §2 (NEW).]

[PL 1983, c. 535, §2 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6 (REV).]

3. Relation to ambient standards. The board may control hazardous air pollutants if no ambient air quality standards have been established for those pollutants.

[PL 1989, c. 144, §5 (AMD).]

4. Legislative review.

[PL 1989, c. 144, §6 (RP).]

5. Standards for mercury. Notwithstanding subsection 1, an air emission source may not emit mercury in excess of 45.4 kilograms, or 100 pounds, per year after January 1, 2000; 22.7 kilograms, or 50 pounds, per year after January 1, 2004; 15.9 kilograms, or 35 pounds, after January 1, 2007; and 11.4 kilograms, or 25 pounds, after January 1, 2010. As an alternative to not emitting mercury in excess of 11.4 kilograms, or 25 pounds, after January 1, 2010, an air emission source may reduce mercury emissions by 90 percent by weight after January 1, 2010. Compliance with these limits must be specified in the license of the air emission source. The department shall establish by rule testing protocols and measurement methods for emissions sources for which the department has not established such protocols and methods for determining compliance with the emission standard for mercury. These rules are routine technical rules under Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

An air emission source may apply to the board for an extension or modification of the 11.4-kilogram, or 25-pound, limit as follows.

A. An emission source may submit an application to the board no later than January 1, 2009 for a 6-month extension of the January 1, 2010 deadline to meet the 11.4-kilogram, or 25-pound, limit. The board shall grant the extension if the board determines, based on information presented by the source, that compliance with the limit is not achievable by the deadline due to engineering constraints, availability of equipment or other justifiable technical reasons. [PL 2005, c. 590, §1 (AMD).]

B. An emission source may submit an application to the board no later than January 1, 2009 for a license modification establishing an alternative emission limit for mercury. The board shall grant the license modification if the board finds that the proposed mercury emission limit meets the most

stringent emission limitation that is achievable and compatible with that class of source, considering economic feasibility. [PL 2005, c. 590, §1 (AMD).]

Pending a decision on an application for an extension or a license modification under this subsection, the 15.9-kilogram, or 35-pound, limit applies to the emission source.

Notwithstanding the January 1, 2000 compliance date in this subsection, a resource recovery facility that is subject to an emissions limit for mercury adopted by rule by the board before January 1, 2000 shall comply with the 45.4-kilogram, or 100-pound, mercury emissions limit after December 19, 2000.

For determining compliance with this subsection, the results of multiple stack tests may be averaged in accordance with guidance provided by the department.

[PL 2013, c. 300, §13 (AMD).]

6. Mercury reduction plans. An air emission source emitting mercury in excess of 10 pounds per year after January 1, 2007 must develop a mercury reduction plan. Except as provided in subsection 7, the mercury reduction plan must be submitted to the department no later than September 1, 2008. The mercury reduction plan must contain:

A. Identification, characterization and accounting of the mercury used or released at the emission source; and [PL 2005, c. 590, §2 (NEW).]

B. Identification, analysis and evaluation of any appropriate technologies, procedures, processes, equipment or production changes that may be utilized by the emission source to reduce the amount of mercury used or released by that emission source, including a financial analysis of the costs and benefits of reducing the amount of mercury used or released. [PL 2005, c. 590, §2 (NEW).]

C. [RR 2005, c. 2, §24 (RP).]

The department shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters no later than March 1, 2009 summarizing the mercury emissions and mercury reduction potential from those emission sources subject to this subsection. In addition, the department shall include an evaluation of the appropriateness of the 25-pound mercury standard established in subsection 5. The evaluation must address, but is not limited to, the technological feasibility, cost and schedule of achieving the standards established in subsection 5. The department shall submit an updated report to the committee by March 1, 2013. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters is authorized to report out to the 126th Legislature a bill relating to the evaluation and the updated report.

[PL 2015, c. 250, Pt. C, §8 (AMD).]

7. Stack tests for mercury. An air emission source emitting mercury in excess of 10 pounds in calendar year 2010 must:

A. Conduct a stack test for mercury twice in calendar year 2011 and twice in calendar year 2012. The stack tests must be conducted at least 4 months apart; and [PL 2009, c. 535, §3 (NEW).]

B. By January 1, 2013, develop a mercury reduction plan and submit the plan to the department in accordance with subsection 6. The plan must contain the results of the 4 stack tests conducted pursuant to paragraph A. [PL 2009, c. 535, §3 (NEW).]

For determining compliance with subsection 5, the results of multiple stack tests under this subsection may be averaged in accordance with guidance provided by the department.

The department may approve an alternative to the stack testing requirements in this subsection, such as, but not limited to, mercury input data or a continuous mercury emission monitoring system.

[PL 2009, c. 535, §3 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 535, §2 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 144, §§5,6 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 722, §3 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 689, §B6 (REV). RR 2005, c. 2, §24 (COR). PL 2005, c. 590, §§1,2 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 338, §§1, 2 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 535, §§1-3 (AMD). PL 2013, c. 300, §13 (AMD). PL 2015, c. 250, Pt. C, §8 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular and First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1, 2023. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.
--