

**REGULATION 11  
HAZARDOUS POLLUTANTS  
RULE 10  
HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM EMISSIONS FROM ALL COOLING TOWERS AND  
TOTAL HYDROCARBON EMISSIONS FROM PETROLEUM REFINERY COOLING TOWERS**

**INDEX**

**11-10-100 GENERAL**

- 11-10-101 Description
- 11-10-102 Deleted December 16, 2015
- 11-10-103 Limited Exemption, Fin-Fan Coolers and HVAC Systems
- 11-10-104 Limited Exemption, Continuous Hydrocarbon Analyzers
- 11-10-105 Limited Exemption, Recirculation Rates Less Than 500 Gallons Per Minute
- 11-10-106 Limited Exemption, Recirculation Rates Less Than 2,500 Gallons Per Minute
- 11-10-107 Limited Exemption, Cooling Towers Servicing Hydrogen Production, Carbon Dioxide Recovery and Power Generation Facilities

**11-10-200 DEFINITIONS**

- 11-10-201 Continuous Hydrocarbon Analyzer
- 11-10-202 Cooling Tower
- 11-10-203 Hexavalent Chromium/Chromate
- 11-10-204 Leak Action Level
- 11-10-205 Leak Repair
- 11-10-206 Petroleum Refinery
- 11-10-207 Heat Exchange System
- 11-10-208 Heat Exchanger
- 11-10-209 Total Hydrocarbon
- 11-10-210 Cooling Tower Return Line
- 11-10-211 Heat Exchanger Exit Line

**11-10-300 STANDARDS**

- 11-10-301 Hexavalent Chromium Removal
- 11-10-302 Deleted December 16, 2015
- 11-10-303 Deleted December 16, 2015
- 11-10-304 Total Hydrocarbon Leak Monitoring Requirement
- 11-10-305 Leak Action Requirement

**11-10-400 ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

- 11-10-401 Petroleum Refinery Cooling Tower Reporting Requirements

**11-10-500 MONITORING AND RECORDS**

- 11-10-501 Deleted December 16, 2015
- 11-10-502 Deleted December 16, 2015
- 11-10-503 Deleted December 16, 2015
- 11-10-504 Operating Records

**11-10-600 MANUAL OF PROCEDURES**

- 11-10-601 Determination of Hexavalent Chromium in Circulating Water
- 11-10-602 Total Hydrocarbon Analyzer Location
- 11-10-603 Cooling Tower Water Lab Analysis Methodology
- 11-10-604 Cooling Tower Water Sampling Methodology

**REGULATION 11  
HAZARDOUS POLLUTANTS  
RULE 10  
HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM EMISSIONS FROM ALL COOLING TOWERS AND  
TOTAL HYDROCARBON EMISSIONS FROM PETROLEUM REFINERY COOLING TOWERS**

(Adopted November 15, 1989)

**11-10-100 GENERAL**

**11-10-101 Description:** The purpose of this Rule is to reduce emissions of hexavalent chromium from all cooling towers and reduce total hydrocarbon emissions from cooling towers at petroleum refineries.

*(Amended December 16, 2015)*

**11-10-102 Deleted December 16, 2015**

**11-10-103 Limited Exemption, Fin-Fan Coolers and HVAC Systems:** Fin-Fan Coolers and HVAC Systems associated with petroleum refinery cooling towers are exempt from the total hydrocarbon emission requirements of this rule.

*(Adopted December 16, 2015)*

**11-10-104 Limited Exemption, Continuous Hydrocarbon Analyzers:** When a continuous hydrocarbon analyzer, as defined in Section 11-10-201, is installed pursuant to Section 11-10-602 and is used to detect total hydrocarbon concentrations in cooling tower water, the cooling tower return line (s), and/or the heat exchanger exit line(s) monitored by the analyzer(s) are exempt from the requirements of Section 11-10-402.

*(Adopted December 16, 2015)*

**11-10-105 Limited Exemption, Recirculation Rates Less Than 500 Gallons Per Minute:** Petroleum refinery cooling towers with a water recirculation rate less than 500 gallons per minute may demonstrate compliance with the requirements in Section 11-10-304 by monitoring for leaks at least once every week with any of the Air District approved total hydrocarbon detection methods outlined in Section 11-10-304. A petroleum refinery may elect to move to a monthly monitoring schedule for a cooling tower as follows:

**105.1** If weekly sampling or monitoring results at a particular cooling tower do not exceed the applicable leak action level for four consecutive weeks, the petroleum refinery may demonstrate compliance with the requirements in Section 11-10-304 by monitoring for leaks at least once every month at the cooling tower;

**105.2** In the event that the monthly sampling or monitoring identifies a result above the applicable leak action level, the petroleum refinery must revert to a weekly sampling or monitoring schedule for the relevant cooling tower; and

**105.3** The relevant cooling tower shall be again eligible for a monthly sampling schedule after four consecutive weeks of sampling or monitoring results below the applicable leak action level.

*(Adopted 12/16/15, Amended 12/19/18)*

**11-10-106 Limited Exemption, Recirculation Rates Less Than 2,500 Gallons Per Minute:** Petroleum refinery cooling towers with a water recirculation rate less than 2,500 gallons per minute may demonstrate compliance with the requirements in Section 11-10-304 by monitoring for leaks at least once every week with any of the Air District approved total hydrocarbon detection methods outlined in Section 11-10-304. A petroleum refinery may elect to move to a monthly monitoring schedule for a cooling tower as follows:

**106.1** If weekly sampling or monitoring results at a particular cooling tower do not exceed the applicable leak action level for four consecutive weeks, the petroleum refinery may demonstrate compliance with the requirements in Section 11-10-304 by monitoring for leaks at least once every month at the cooling tower;

**106.2** In the event that the monthly sampling or monitoring identifies a result above the applicable leak action level, the petroleum refinery must revert to a weekly sampling or monitoring schedule for the relevant cooling tower; and

**106.3** The relevant cooling tower shall be again eligible for a monthly sampling schedule after four consecutive weeks of sampling or monitoring results below the applicable leak action level.

*(Adopted 12/16/15, Amended 12/19/18)*

**11-10-107 Limited Exemption, Cooling Towers Servicing Hydrogen Production, Carbon Dioxide Recovery and Power Generation Facilities:** Cooling towers that are not in petroleum refining process service are excluded from the total hydrocarbon emission requirements of this rule. Refining process service is limited to refinery process units that handle petroleum hydrocarbons. Specific examples of cooling towers not in petroleum refining process service are those that serve power generation operations, hydrogen production facilities and carbon dioxide recovery facilities located at petroleum refineries, provided they are not involved with the refining of crude oil and their cooling systems are separate from those used in petroleum refining operations. Cooling towers serving sulfur plants, lube oil streams, and amine streams will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and the APCO shall determine if the cooling tower is subject to the total hydrocarbon requirements of this rule.

*(Adopted 12/16/15, Amended 12/19/18)*

## **11-10-200 DEFINITIONS**

**11-10-201 Continuous Hydrocarbon Analyzer:** An Air District-approved parametric monitoring device that measures total hydrocarbon concentration to detect leaks in a heat exchanger system.

*(Adopted December 16, 2015)*

**11-10-202 Cooling Tower:** A device used to remove heat from circulating cooling water systems by transferring heat to the atmosphere using either a natural or mechanical draft.

*(Renumbered, Amended December 16, 2015)*

**11-10-203 Hexavalent Chromium/Chromate:** Hexavalent chromium is a cancer-causing (toxic) substance existing as part of various inorganic chromate compounds, for example, sodium dichromate or lead chromate.

*(Prior Section 11-10-203 Deleted 12/16/15; Current Section 11-10-203 Adopted 12/16/15)*

**11-10-204 Leak Action Level:** A total hydrocarbon concentration greater than any one of the following:

**204.1** 84 ppbw (as methane) as measured in cooling tower water prior to exposure to air for cooling towers in operation prior to July 1, 2016, or 42 ppbw (as methane) as measured in cooling tower water prior to exposure to air for new or modified cooling towers operating on or after July 1, 2016.

**204.2** 6 ppmv (as methane) as measured in stripped air by a continuous hydrocarbon analyzer or an APCO approved alternative method.

*(Adopted December 16, 2015)*

**11-10-205 Leak Repair:** A leak repair shall reduce the concentration of total hydrocarbon in cooling tower water to comply with the applicable leak action level and may include but not be limited to the following actions:

**205.1** Permanent physical repair of leaking equipment, replacement of equipment, and/or blocking or plugging equipment.

**205.2** Replacing the leaking heat exchanger or heat exchanger bundle; or permanently isolating, bypassing, or otherwise removing the leaking heat exchanger from service until it is repaired.

*(Adopted December 16, 2015)*

**11-10-206 Petroleum Refinery:** An establishment that is located on one or more contiguous or adjacent properties that processes crude oil to produce more usable products such as gasoline, diesel fuel, aviation fuel, lubricating oils, asphalt or petrochemical feedstocks. Petroleum refinery processes include separation processes (e.g., atmospheric or vacuum distillation, and light ends recovery), petroleum conversion processes (e.g., cracking, reforming, alkylation, polymerization, isomerization, coking, and visbreaking) petroleum treating processes (e.g., hydrodesulfurization, hydrotreating, chemical sweetening, acid gas removal, and deasphalting), feedstock and product handling (e.g., storage, blending, loading, and unloading), and auxiliary facilities (e.g., boilers, waste water treatment, hydrogen production, sulfur recovery plant, cooling towers, blowdown systems, compressor engines, and power plants).

*(Adopted December 16, 2015)*

- 11-10-207 Heat Exchange System:** A device or series of devices used to transfer heat from process fluids to water without intentional direct contact of the process fluid with the water (i.e., non-contact heat exchanger) and to transport and/or cool the water in a closed-loop recirculation system (cooling tower system). For closed-loop recirculation systems, the heat exchange system consists of a cooling tower, all petroleum refinery process unit heat exchangers that are serviced by that cooling tower, and all water lines to and from the petroleum refinery process unit heat exchanger(s).  
(Adopted December 16, 2015)
- 11-10-208 Heat Exchanger:** A device consisting of fins and/or tubes used to transfer heat from process equipment or process fluid streams to cooling water.  
(Adopted December 16, 2015)
- 11-10-209 Total Hydrocarbon:** Any compound of carbon excluding carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, metallic carbides or carbonates and ammonium carbonate.  
(Adopted December 16, 2015)
- 11-10-210 Cooling Tower Return Line:** The main water trunk lines at the inlet to the cooling tower before exposure to the atmosphere.  
(Adopted December 16, 2015)
- 11-10-211 Heat Exchanger Exit Line:** A cooling water line from the exit of one or more heat exchangers (where cooling water leaves the heat exchangers) to the entrance of the cooling tower return line.  
(Adopted December 16, 2015)

**11-10-300 STANDARDS**

- 11-10-301 Hexavalent Chromium Removal:** Effective March 1, 1990, a person shall not operate any cooling tower in the District that uses hexavalent chromium chemicals.
- 11-10-302 Deleted December 16, 2015**
- 11-10-303 Deleted December 16, 2015**
- 11-10-304 Total Hydrocarbon Leak Monitoring Requirement:** Effective January 1, 2019, the owner/operator of a cooling tower located at a petroleum refinery shall use one of three options to monitor for total hydrocarbon leaks from cooling towers:
- 304.1** Sample and analyze cooling tower water at each cooling tower return line(s), and/or at each heat exchanger exit line(s) prior to exposure to air to demonstrate compliance with the leak action level in Subsection 11-10-204.1 (84 ppbw in the cooling water for existing units and 42 ppbw for new/modified units) at least once every week (52 samples per year) pursuant to the requirements of Sections 11-10-603, 11-10-604 and the BAAQMD Manual of Procedures. A petroleum refinery may elect to move to a bi-monthly sampling schedule (two samples every month) for a cooling tower provided weekly sampling results at a particular cooling tower do not exceed the applicable leak action level for six consecutive months (26 consecutive weekly samples):
- 4.1.1 In the event that sampling identifies a result above the applicable leak action level, the refinery must revert to a weekly sampling or monitoring schedule for the relevant cooling tower; and
- 4.1.2 The relevant cooling tower shall be again eligible for a bi-monthly sampling schedule (two samples every month) after six consecutive months of sampling results below the applicable leak action level.
- 304.2** Install a continuous hydrocarbon analyzer(s) at each cooling tower return line(s), and/or at each heat exchanger exit line(s) prior to exposure to air to demonstrate compliance with the leak action level in Subsection 11-10-204.2 (6 ppmv in the stripped air). The owner/operator shall ensure that the continuous hydrocarbon analyzer(s) is capable of taking at least 4 measurements every hour (96 measurements per day).
- 304.3** Employ an alternative APCO-approved method to monitor each cooling tower return line(s), and/or each heat exchanger exit line(s) prior to exposure to air to demonstrate compliance with the leak action level in Subsection 11-10-204.2 (6 ppmv in the stripped air). Monitoring of cooling towers using an alternative APCO-approved method must meet the monitoring frequency requirements as described in Subsection 11-10-304.1. Cooling tower owner/operators must receive prior approval from the APCO to use an alternative monitoring method.

*(Adopted 12/16/15, Amended 12/19/18)*

**11-10-305 Leak Action Requirement:** Effective January 1, 2019, if any of the hydrocarbon leak detection methods in Section 11-10-304 result in cooling tower water containing total hydrocarbon concentrations greater than the applicable leak action level in Section 11-10-204, the cooling tower owner/operator shall minimize the leak as soon as practicable or within seven calendar days, whichever is sooner, and conduct a leak repair and/or remove the defective piece of equipment from service within 21 calendar days of first detecting the leak. Any delay in completion of the leak repair beyond 21 days must meet the criteria cited in 40 C.F.R. 63.654(f)-(g). The owner/operator shall also speciate and quantify the Toxic Air Contaminants (TACs) associated with the leak within 72 hours of discovering the leak, using water sampling pursuant to the requirements of Sections 11-10-603, 11-10-604 and the BAAQMD Manual of Procedures. The TACs requiring speciation and quantification are defined in Regulation 2, Rule 5, Section 2-5-222 and are summarized in Table 2-5-1 of Regulation 2, Rule 5.

*(Adopted 12/16/15, Amended 12/19/18)*

## **11-10-400 ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

**11-10-401 Petroleum Refinery Cooling Tower Reporting Requirements:** When the sampling of cooling tower water exceeds the applicable leak action level the cooling tower owner/operator shall:

**401.1** Conduct sampling of total hydrocarbon concentration and chlorine concentration in the cooling water as soon as feasible, and no later than 24 hours from the time and date of leak discovery. Within 72 hours of the time and date of leak discovery, the owner/operator shall notify the APCO of the total hydrocarbon concentration and chlorine concentration in the cooling water.

**401.2** If the leak has not been repaired after 21 days, the owner/operator shall notify the APCO regarding the magnitude of the leak, the specific repairs performed to date, whether the leaking component was reinspected for leaks following the repair, the cause of the leak, whether further repair or replacement of equipment will be required at the next turnaround, whether the hydrocarbons associated with the leak were speciated and quantified. The owner/operator shall notify the APCO if the delay in completion of the leak repair beyond 21 days meets the criteria cited in 40 C.F.R. 63.654(f)-(g).

*(Adopted 12/16/15, Amended 12/19/18)*

**11-10-402 Deleted December 19, 2018**

## **11-10-500 MONITORING AND RECORDS**

**11-10-501 Deleted December 16, 2015**

**11-10-502 Deleted December 16, 2015**

**11-10-503 Deleted December 16, 2015**

**11-10-504 Operating Records:** Owner/operators subject to the requirements of Sections 11-10-301, 304, 305, 401, 601, 602, 603 and/or 604 shall retain records of the results of all sampling and/or monitoring conducted, leak minimizations and repairs made, and other required data on site for at least five years from the date of entry. Owner/operators claiming any of the limited exemptions from petroleum refinery cooling tower requirements in this rule shall keep records on site for at least five years to demonstrate qualification for exemption.

*(Adopted 12/16/15, Amended 12/19/18)*

## **11-10-600 MANUAL OF PROCEDURES**

**11-10-601 Determination of Hexavalent Chromium in Circulating Water:** Samples of circulating water shall be analyzed for hexavalent chromium as prescribed by American Public Health Method 312B or an equivalent method, as approved by the APCO.

**11-10-602 Total Hydrocarbon Analyzer Location:** Effective July 1, 2016, if the owner/operator of a cooling tower at a petroleum refinery installs one or more Air District-approved

total hydrocarbon analyzers in a cooling tower to demonstrate compliance with Subsections 11-10-304.2 and 304.3, such analyzers shall be installed at: A) each cooling tower return line to continuously measure the total hydrocarbon concentration in the cooling tower water prior to exposure to air, or B) the exit line for each heat exchanger or group of heat exchangers within that heat exchanger system prior to exposure to air. Location of analyzer installations shall be subject to APCO approval. Analyzer sensitivity shall respond to the compounds being processed. Analyzers shall be maintained and operated in accordance with Regulation 1, Section 523.

*(Adopted December 16, 2015)*

**11-10-603 Cooling Tower Water Lab Analysis Methodology:** Effective July 1, 2016, when the owner/operator of a cooling tower located at a petroleum refinery performs cooling water sampling and analysis for hydrocarbon concentration in cooling tower water pursuant to Subsection 11-10-304.1, the laboratory analysis shall follow EPA Method 8015D.

*(Adopted December 16, 2015)*

**11-10-604 Cooling Tower Water Sampling Methodology:** Effective July 1, 2016, when the owner/operator of a cooling tower located at a petroleum refinery performs cooling water sampling and analysis for total hydrocarbon concentration in cooling tower water pursuant to Subsection 11-10-304.1, the cooling water shall be sampled at each cooling tower return line(s) and/or each heat exchanger exit line(s) prior to exposure to air. Sampling methodology shall follow the BAAQMD Manual of Procedures.

*(Adopted December 16, 2015)*