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**REGULATION 8  
ORGANIC COMPOUND  
RULE 10  
PROCESS VESSEL DEPRESSURIZATION**

**8-10-100 GENERAL**

**8-10-101 Description:** The purpose of this Rule is to limit emissions of organic compounds from depressurizing and opening of process vessels at refineries and chemical plants.

*(Amended 3/17/82; 7/20/83; 1/21/04; 11/3/21)*

**8-10-110 Exemption, Equipment Subject to Other Rules:** The provisions of this rule shall not apply to vessels that are subject to the following Regulation 8 rules:

110.1 Regulation 8, Rule 5: Storage of Organic Liquids

110.2 Regulation 8, Rule 24: Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Manufacturing Operations

110.3 Regulation 8, Rule 35: Coating, Ink and Adhesive Manufacturing

110.4 Regulation 8, Rule 36: Resin Manufacturing

110.5 Regulation 8, Rule 41: Vegetable Oil Manufacturing Operations

110.6 Regulation 8, Rule 50: Polyester Resin Operations

110.7 Regulation 8, Rule 52: Polystyrene, Polypropylene, and Polyethylene Foam Product Manufacturing Operations

*(Amended January 21, 2004)*

**8-10-111 Deleted January 21, 2004**

**8-10-112 Limited Exemption, Measurement Periods:** The provisions of Section 8-10-301 shall not apply while a process vessel is opened for a period of time reasonably necessary for measurements to determine compliance with the concentration and mass emission limits of this rule.

*(Adopted January 21, 2004)*

**8-10-113 Exemption, Small Vessels:** The provisions of this Rule shall not apply to any process vessel with a volume of less than 100 cubic feet (ft<sup>3</sup>).

*(Adopted January 21, 2004)*

**8-10-114 Exemption, Batch Processes:** The provisions of this rule shall not apply to any process vessel used in a batch process operation that requires periodic vessel opening as part of the routine operation of the vessel, including but not limited to delayed coking vessels.

*(Adopted January 21, 2004)*

**8-10-200 DEFINITIONS**

**8-10-201 Chemical Plant:** Any facility engaged in producing organic or inorganic chemicals and/or manufacturing products by chemical processes. Any facility or operation that has 325 as the first three digits in the North American Industrial Classification Standard (NAICS) code. Chemical plants may include, but are not limited to the manufacture of: industrial inorganic and organic chemicals; plastic and synthetic resins, synthetic rubber, synthetic and other man made fibers; drugs; soap, detergents and cleaning preparations, perfumes, cosmetics and other toilet preparations; paints, varnishes, lacquers, enamels and allied products; agricultural chemicals; safflower and sunflower oil extracts; re-refining.

*(Adopted 7/20/83; Amended 1/21/04)*

**8-10-202 Deleted November 3, 2021**

**8-10-203 Process Unit:** A manufacturing process which is independent of other processes and is continuous when supplied with a constant feed of raw materials and sufficient storage facilities for the final product.

*(Adopted 7/20/83)*

**8-10-204 Process Vessel:** Any vessel in which organic compounds are fractionated, chemically reacted, washed or purified. These vessels shall include but are not limited to reactors, columns, accumulator vessels, knockout pots, surge/settling drums and other similar devices.

*(Renumbered 7/20/83; Amended 1/21/04)*

**8-10-205 Organic Compound:** Any compound of carbon, excluding methane, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, metallic carbides or carbonates and ammonium carbonate.

*(Adopted January 21, 2004)*

**8-10-206 Total Organic Compound:** All organic compounds of carbon including methane, excluding carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, metallic carbides or carbonates and ammonium carbonate.

*(Adopted January 21, 2004)*

**8-10-207 Alternative Feedstock:** Any feedstock, intermediate, product or byproduct material that contains organic material that is not derived from crude oil product, coal, natural gas, or any other fossil-fuel based organic material.

*(Adopted November 3, 2021)*

**8-10-208 Refinery:** An establishment that is located on one or more contiguous or adjacent properties that processes any organic feedstock, to produce more usable products such as gasoline, diesel fuel, aviation fuel, lubricating oils, asphalt or petrochemical feedstocks, or any other similar product. Refinery processes include separation processes (e.g., atmospheric or vacuum distillation, and light ends recovery), conversion processes (e.g., cracking, reforming, alkylation, polymerization, isomerization, coking, and visbreaking), treating processes (e.g., hydrodesulfurization, hydrotreating, chemical sweetening, acid gas removal, and deasphalting), feedstock and product handling (e.g., storage, crude oil blending, non-crude oil feedstock blending, product 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 November 3, 2021)*

## **8-10-300 STANDARDS**

**8-10-301 Process Vessel Depressurizing:** Emissions of organic compounds from depressurizing any process vessel at a refinery or a chemical plant shall be controlled by venting them to a fuel gas system, firebox, incinerator, thermal oxidizer, flare, or otherwise containing and treating them so as to prevent their emissions to the atmosphere. Such procedures shall continue until the pressure within the process vessel is as close to atmospheric pressure as practicably possible, in no case shall a process vessel be vented to the atmosphere until the partial pressure of organic compounds in that vessel is less than 1000 mm Hg (4.6 psig).

*(Amended 3/17/82; 7/20/83; 1/21/04; 11/3/21)*

**8-10-302 Opening of Process Vessels:** Effective July 1, 2004, no process vessel may be opened to the atmosphere except as provided below:

302.1 No process vessel may be opened to the atmosphere unless the internal concentration of total organic compounds has been reduced prior to release to atmosphere to less than 10,000 parts per million (ppm), expressed as methane (C<sub>1</sub>) except as provided in Section 8-10-302.2.

302.2 A process vessel at a refinery or chemical plant may be opened when the internal concentration of total organic compounds is 10,000 ppm or greater provided that the total number of such vessels opened with such concentration during any consecutive five year period does not exceed 10% of the total process vessel population as documented pursuant to section 8-10-401, and the organic compound emissions from the opening of these vessels shall not exceed 15 pounds per day. Vessels with an internal concentration of total organic compounds of 10,000 ppm or greater shall not be opened on any day on which the APCO predicts an exceedance of a National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone or declares a Spare the Air Day.

*(Adopted January 21, 2004)*

## **8-10-400 ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

**8-10-401 Reporting:** Any facility subject to the provisions of this rule shall submit an annual report to the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) containing the elements of Section

8-10-503. The annual report shall be submitted by February 1 of each year. By April 1, 2004, any facility subject to the provisions of this rule shall submit an initial report that lists all process vessels, it's volume in cubic feet, and it's service type. The list shall be updated yearly, as necessary, and submitted with the annual report.

*(Amended 3/17/82, 7/10/83; 1/21/04)*

**8-10-402 Deleted January 21, 2004**

**8-10-500 MONITORING AND RECORDS**

**8-10-501 Monitoring:** Any vessel subject to this rule shall be monitored for the concentration of total organic compounds prior to opening and once per day during the time the vessel is open to the atmosphere. The sample shall be a representative sample of the internal atmosphere of the vessel. This section shall not apply if it can be demonstrated that the concentration of total organic compounds has been reduced to a concentration equal to or less than 100 ppm for three consecutive days.

*(Adopted January 21, 2004)*

**8-10-502 Concentration Measurement:** The meter used to measure the concentration of total organic compound emissions shall meet the accuracy requirements specified in EPA Method 21.

*(Adopted January 21, 2004)*

**8-10-503 Records:** Any facility subject to the provisions of this rule shall keep records of each vessel depressurization. The records shall include the following information:

- 503.1 The date, time, type of activity, and duration of depressurization and vessel opening,
- 503.2 The type of service, size and name or vessel identification number,
- 503.3 The measured total organic compound concentration and calculated mass emissions from each depressurized vessel, including the sample location and any assumptions made in calculating the mass emissions, and
- 503.4 The number and size of any air movers used to assure compliance with confined space entry requirements.
- 503.5 Records shall be maintained for at least 5 years and shall be made available to the APCO for inspection at any time.

*(Adopted January 21, 2004)*

**8-10-600 MANUAL OF PROCEDURES**

**8-10-601 Monitoring Procedures:** The procedures used to monitor emissions are set forth in EPA Method 21 (40 CFR Part 60, Appendix A).

*(Adopted January 21, 2004)*