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# Air Compliance News

## No Impact

I recently finished reading a true story about a family who decides to try to live for a year causing as little negative environmental impact as possible.\* That means no waste, no emissions, no electricity...*no toilet paper*. It's an amazing story. One that makes you realize just how *much* impact we each have and how hard it is to eliminate it.

Many of you reading this not only have responsibility for your personal environmental impacts, but also for your company's. The possibility of No Impact (zero discharge) for your company seems pretty far-fetched for most facilities. It's hard enough to comply with regulations that *limit* (but don't *eliminate*) your facility's emissions, much less get them to zero.

Eventually though, zero may be the way to go, if for no other reason than to avoid the regulatory quagmire we seem to be heading toward. EPA's focus on Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) has already resulted in publishing an endangerment finding, requiring annual reporting, and proposing regulations for limiting GHG emissions. Regulating GHG emissions under the Clean Air Act alone should be enough motivation for you to take a hard look at the impact your facility has on the environment and to start thinking of ways to reduce it.



At the end of the year, the family determined that even though their experiment with no impact living was a success, one year was enough. They would move forward with *less* impact, but a much greater awareness. This is a conclusion that corporate entities can live with as well. As regulatory requirements increase and emission limits decrease, having less impact may not be a choice.

If you want to start to reduce your impact, the first step is to quantify it (the family in the book did this by sorting several bags of their household trash). We can help you with that. Let Air Compliance Testing quantify your air emissions—no guessing, no calculations; just accurate measurements. Quantification is your first step toward reducing your “Impact.”

*Louise Barton*

Louise Barton | Sales/Marketing Director

\**No Impact Man: The Adventures of a Guilty Liberal Who Attempts to Save the Planet, and the Discoveries He Makes About Himself and Our Way of Life in the Process* by Colin Beavan. For more information on the No Impact Project, go to <http://noimpactproject.org/experiment/>.



## 2010 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Regulatory Activity

During 2009, EPA's actions included issuing the federal Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reporting rule that applies to 2010 emissions, granting a waiver that allows California to regulate GHG emissions from cars, and finalizing the GHG "endangerment finding." Looking ahead to 2010, EPA's main work is going to focus on implementing the endangerment finding (that GHGs endanger public health and welfare).

Once GHGs officially become regulated pollutants under the Clean Air Act, major new sources and major modifications to existing sources would be required to install the best available pollution control technologies (BACT) to control GHG emissions and to obtain Title V Air Operating Permits (or incorporate GHG requirements into their existing operating permits). Applying the Clean Air Act's existing 100 ton and 250 ton thresholds for what is considered a "major source" to GHGs could result in requiring up to 40,000 New Source Review applications a year, and up to 6 million operating permit applications. EPA has proposed to "tailor" the permitting thresholds, but this is likely to be challenged, as it attempts to alter the express requirements of the Clean Air Act through agency rulemaking. Even if the tailoring rule avoids or survives challenge, most of the implementation burden will fall to the states, which are delegated responsibility for administering the Clean Air Act's permitting programs. State programs, however, lack the funding and resources to even begin to regulate all of the sources potentially covered by the new rules.

### Upcoming Events

#### February 23-25, 2010

Florida Chamber's 26th Annual Growth Management, Energy, Climate Change & The Environment Short Course, Orlando, FL. For registration information, go to <http://www.floridaenet.com/growthmgmt/home.htm>.

#### March 24-25, 2010

19th Annual Business & Industry's Environmental Health & Safety Symposium, Duke Energy Center, Cincinnati, OH. Go to <http://www.mecseminars.com/environmental.html> for more information.

#### June 22-25, 2010

The Air & Waste Management Association's 103rd Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE 2010) Calgary, AB, Canada. For registration information go to <http://www.awma.org/ACE2010/>.

## EPA Proposes Stricter Smog Rules



After reviewing more than 1,700 scientific studies and public comments from the previous rulemaking process, EPA is proposing a revision to the ground-level ozone standard of 0.075 parts per million (ppm), set in 2008, to a primary ozone standard between 0.060 and 0.070 ppm, the strictest health standard to date for smog.

The agency will take public comment for 60 days after the proposed rule is published in the Federal Register. The agency will hold three public hearings on the proposal: February 2, in Arlington, Va. and in Houston; and February 4, in Sacramento.

A proposed "secondary" standard is a seasonal standard designed to protect plants and trees from damage occurring from repeated ozone exposure, which can reduce tree growth, damage leaves, and increase susceptibility to disease.

For more information, go to <http://www.epa.gov/groundlevelozone/>.

## EPA Administrator Jackson's One Year Memo

On January 12, 2010, EPA Administrator Jackson sent a memo to her employees that reflected back and also looked ahead with an expanded list of priorities:

**Taking Action on Climate Change:** The progress in 2009 must be continued moving forward. Mobile source rules, the Energy Star program, and developing common-sense solutions for reducing GHG emissions from large stationary sources are noted.

**Improving Air Quality:** EPA will develop a comprehensive strategy for the power sector, with emission reduction goals for SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, Mercury and other air toxics. Other activities will include strengthening Ambient Air Quality Standards for PM, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>, and improving monitoring, permitting and enforcement.



**Assuring the Safety of Chemicals:** One of Jackson's highest priorities, shifting EPA's focus to address high-concern chemicals and filling data gaps on widely produced chemicals in commerce, and issuing additional chemical management plans.

**Cleaning Up Our Communities:** Continue to focus on making safer, healthier communities, maximizing the potential of our brownfields program, and developing enhanced strategies for risk reduction in the Superfund program.

**Protecting America's Waters:** Continued comprehensive watershed protection programs for the Chesapeake Bay and Great Lakes, addressing post-construction runoff, water quality impairment from surface mining, and stronger drinking water protection.

**Expanding the Conversation on Environmentalism and Working for Environmental Justice:** Including environmental justice principles in all EPA decisions, and protection of vulnerable subpopulations (especially with regard to children).

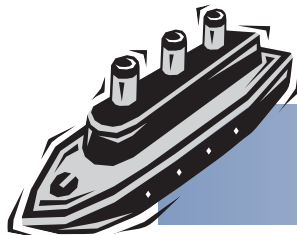
Improving EPA's internal operations is also a priority that will direct the agency in 2010. For the complete Memo, go to <http://blog.epa.gov/administrator/2010/01/12/seven-priorities-for-epas-future/>.

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## EPA Adopts Diesel Emission Standards for Large Ships

EPA has finalized a rule setting engine and fuel standards for large U.S. ships, a major milestone in the agency's strategy to slash harmful marine diesel emissions. The regulation will lead to significant air quality improvements to port communities throughout the country and harmonizes with international standards. The rule adds two new tiers of NO<sub>x</sub> standards and



strengthens EPA's diesel fuel program for affected ships. This action is a milestone in EPA's effort to reduce pollution from diesel engines under the National Clean Diesel Campaign and will bring attention to the

More information on the rule and coordinated strategy: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/oceanvessels.htm>.

communities near ports who suffer unduly from marine based port diesel emissions.

## Compliance and Enforcement Annual Results 2009 Fiscal Year

The EPA released enforcement results for fiscal year 2009. Enforcement actions were taken at approximately 4,600 facilities. In fiscal year 2009, the enforcement and compliance program concluded civil and criminal enforcement actions requiring polluters to invest an estimated \$5.4 billion to reduce pollution, clean up contaminated land and water, achieve compliance and fund environmentally beneficial projects. Civil and criminal defendants committed to reduce pollution by approximately 570 million pounds annually once all required controls are fully implemented.

Results for our Regions	REGION 3	REGION 4	REGION 5
Pollution Reduced, Treated or Eliminated (Pounds)	19,175,094	100,300,000	82,765,910
Investments to Reduce Pollution & Protect the Environment (Injunctive Relief)	97,440,163	2,039,660,480	179,532,961
Investments that Benefit the Environment & Public Health (Supplemental Environmental Projects)	1,289,429	14,020,092	14,020,092
Civil Penalties Assessed (Administrative and Judicial)	9,206,072	7,887,721	9,376,774

Go to: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/reports/endofyear/eoy2009/index.html> for the full report, and to explore the new Web-based tool and interactive map that allows the public to get detailed information by location about the EPA targets its enforcement actions.

For Regional Results, go to <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/reports/endofyear/eoy2009/2009regionalresults.html>.

Do you know someone who could use our services?

Let us know! Send an e-mail with their name, company, phone and e-mail to [testing@aircomp.com](mailto:testing@aircomp.com).

### EPA to Hold Public Hearing on Air Quality Standards for Sulfur Dioxide

EPA held a public hearing on the agency's proposal to strengthen Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) standards. EPA is taking comment on a proposal to establish a new national one-hour SO<sub>2</sub> standard, between 50 and 100 parts per billion. This standard is designed to protect against short-term exposures ranging from five minutes to 24 hours. Because the revised standards would be more protective, EPA is proposing to revoke the current 24-hour and annual SO<sub>2</sub> health standards.

The hearing was held in early January; however, EPA also will accept written comments on the proposed rule until February 8, 2010.

More information on the proposed rule and instructions for submitting written comments: <http://www.epa.gov/air/sulfurdioxide>.

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