



(updated 2/27/2017)

1.2 FACILITIES/SOURCES EXEMPT OR DEFERRED FROM SUBMITTING A COMPLIANCE DEMONSTRATION -- STANDARD No. 2 and STANDARD No. 7

The following facilities or sources, as detailed below, are exempt or deferred from the requirement to submit an air quality analysis for the purpose of demonstrating compliance with the ambient standards established in SC Regulation 61-62.5 Standards No. 2 and 7. This guidance does not apply to pollutants triggering Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit actions. These exemptions and deferrals may be rescinded and a compliance demonstration required if there are citizen or regulatory concerns or the facility is located in or near a non-attainment area. Note that lead (Pb) emissions are not eligible for deferrals. Please see the Air Toxic Modeling Procedures, located in Appendix D of the SC [Air Quality Modeling Guidelines](http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/docs/modguide.pdf) (<http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/docs/modguide.pdf>), for information on de minimis and deferral approaches for air toxics regulated in SC Regulation 61-62.5 Standard No. 8.

Please note that sources and facilities exempt from the requirement to submit an air quality analysis are not necessarily exempt from permitting requirements. Please contact the Bureau for guidance on whether a source exempt from the requirement to submit an air quality analysis is also exempt from permitting requirements.

A. EXEMPT FACILITIES

1. Cotton Gins and Country Grain Elevators

Cotton gins and country grain elevators (facilities which directly receive grain from farms during harvest seasons and include drying and cleaning operations in addition to handling and storing grain) are exempt from the requirement to submit an air quality analysis contingent upon the facility in question not being a part of a larger facility. These facility types are exempted due to the sporadic or seasonal operation of their sources and the fact these sources typically emit large particulate that should quickly settle near the facility. Facilities with a negative compliance or complaint history may be required to submit an air quality analysis.

2. Concrete Batch Plants and Pug Mills

Concrete batch plants and pug mills that are not part of a larger facility may be granted an exemption on a case-by-case basis. The decision on whether to grant an exemption will be based on the proximity and density of residences and other population centers.

Existing facilities' compliance and complaint history will also be taken in to consideration before granting this exemption.

B. EXEMPT SOURCES

Certain sources are exempt from permitting based on the size, emission levels and operating characteristics of the source. As a result, except in the case of compliance demonstrations for New Source Review/Prevention of Significant Deterioration (NSR/PSD) permits, the Bureau exempts equipment as listed on the Bureau of Air Quality permit exemption list from the requirement to submit an air quality analysis for Standards 2 and 7 (see <http://www.scdhec.gov/Environment/docs/NewExemptions.pdf>).

EXEMPT EMISSION LEVELS

Except in the case of compliance demonstrations for PSD permits, the following per source emission levels, by pollutant, are exempt from Standards No. 2 and 7 air quality analysis requirements. Note that, for a source consisting of more than one emission point, the emissions from all of the source's emission points should be added together before the emission rate is compared to the exemption thresholds:

1. **Particulate Matter 10 micron and smaller (PM₁₀)** - controlled or uncontrolled emissions of less than 1.14 lb/hr (or less than 5 tons/yr) per source of PM₁₀ are exempt from air quality analysis requirements and are not required to be included in the facility-wide compliance demonstration.
2. **Particulate Matter 2.5 micron and smaller (PM_{2.5})** - controlled or uncontrolled emissions of less than 1.14 lb/hr (or less than 5 tons/yr) per source of PM_{2.5} are exempt from air quality analysis requirements and are not required to be included in the facility-wide compliance demonstration.
3. **Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂)** - controlled or uncontrolled emissions of less than 1.14 lb/hr (or less than 5 tons/yr) per source of SO₂ are exempt from air quality analysis requirements and are not required to be included in the facility-wide compliance demonstration.
4. **Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x)** - controlled or uncontrolled emissions of less than 1.14 lb/hr (or less than 5 tons/yr) per source of NO_x are exempt from air quality analysis requirements and are not required to be included in the facility-wide compliance demonstration.
5. **Carbon Monoxide (CO)** - controlled or uncontrolled emissions of less than 10.0 lb/hr per source of CO are exempt from air quality analysis requirements and are not required to be included in the facility-wide compliance demonstration for this pollutant.
6. **Lead** - Facilities with a facility-wide controlled or uncontrolled potential emission rate of less than 0.114 lb/hr of lead (or less than 0.5 tons/yr) are exempt from air quality analysis requirements, and the obligation to submit a compliance demonstration, for this pollutant. Facilities with a short term emission rate greater than 0.114 lb/hr may qualify for this exemption if their lead emissions are limited to less than 250 pounds in any 3-month period.

C. DEFERRED EMISSION LEVELS

The Bureau allows the following per source criteria pollutant increases to be deferred from air quality analysis requirements at the time of the construction permit or operating permit modification application. This deferral will be granted only if the existing facility-wide modeling compliance demonstration for the pollutant being deferred is less than 90% of each Standard No. 2 and No. 7 Ambient Standard. A demonstration showing compliance for these increases will be required at the time of the next operating permit renewal or five years from the date of the deferral, whichever comes first. If this compliance demonstration indicates noncompliance with the standards, the facility will be required to bring the facility back into compliance before a permit will be issued.

NOTE: The deferral of an air quality analysis does not exempt a facility from enforcement action, including possible penalties, should a subsequent air quality analysis indicate that a standard has been exceeded.

1. **PM₁₀** - controlled or uncontrolled emissions increases less than 1.14 lb/hr per source (or less than 5 tons/yr) of PM₁₀ for an existing facility may be deferred.
2. **PM_{2.5}** - controlled or uncontrolled emissions increases less than 1.14 lb/hr per source (or less than 5 tons/yr) of PM_{2.5} for an existing facility may be deferred.
3. **SO₂** - controlled or uncontrolled emissions increases less than 1.14 lb/hr per source (or less than 5 tons/yr) of SO₂ for an existing facility may be deferred.
4. **NO_x** - controlled or uncontrolled emissions increases less than 1.14 lb/hr per source (or less than 5 tons/yr) of NO_x for an existing facility may be deferred.
5. **CO** - controlled or uncontrolled emissions increases less than 10.0 lb/hr per source of CO for an existing facility may be deferred.

UPDATED AIR QUALITY ANALYSIS NOT REQUIRED

1. **Replacement or Modification of Existing Sources**

The replacement of sources with new sources (like-for-like, reconstruction, etc.) that have equivalent or lower emissions than the original source does not require an updated compliance demonstration, provided dispersion parameters for the sources have not worsened. An updated compliance demonstration is also not required for modifications or changes to a source (i.e. fuel type, raw material changes, etc.) that generate equivalent or lower emissions and provide the same or improved dispersion as compared to the original modeled source. The current compliance demonstration for the facility on file at the Bureau must be up to date and include the original source.

2. **Operating Permit Renewal**

Facilities submitting Title V, conditional major, or state operating permit renewal applications that have not deferred emissions since the last operating permit and have not added new emissions sources, made stack or facility modifications that would worsen

dispersion, or had emissions increases since the facility's previous compliance demonstration, are not required to submit a new compliance demonstration for the facility.

3. Removal of a Source

A new compliance demonstration is not required for removal of a source.

4. Software Changes/Updates

A revised compliance demonstration is not required to address updates of air dispersion modeling software programs.

5. Emission Factor Changes

A new compliance demonstration is not required when EPA established emission factors, such as AP-42, are updated. Any compliance demonstration performed after the emission factor change, however, must include current emission factors. If not already required for another reason, compliance would need to be addressed at operating permit renewal to reflect any increases in emission factors, i.e., to bring the facility's air quality analysis up-to-date.