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Category: 13 – Petroleum Refinery Process

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711

DATE: MAR 20 1980

SUBJECT: New Fugitive Hydrocarbon Emission Factors for Petroleum
Refineries and Petrochemical Plants

FROM: Richard G. Rhoads, Director
Control Programs Development Division (MD-15)

TO: Allyn M. Davis, Director
Air and Hazardous Materials Division ((6AAH))

This is an response to your memorandum of February 29, 1980 concerning your request for guidance on fugitive hydrocarbon emission factors for petroleum refineries and petrochemical plants.

It was recommended in our memorandum of May 14, 1979 that, for calculating potential hydrocarbon emission rates from new oil refineries, EPA 600/2-79-04 should be used as a replacement for AP-42. However, a major deficiency in this document is the lack of methods to determine hydrocarbon emission reduction efficiencies through the use of various equipment and work/practice standards.

The Chemical and Petroleum Branch of EPA/OAQPS has issued (November 1979) a draft document that describes methods to determine controlled fugitive hydrocarbon emission rates. It is our understanding that the draft background information document entitled "Fugitive Emission Sources in the Synthetic Organic Chemicals Manufacturing Industry" will not be finalized until some time in 1981. It is acceptable, however, to use that draft report as an interim guide to determine controlled fugitive hydrocarbon emission rates with the understanding that the final version of the report may have significant changes when issued. The finalized version of the document will be substituted as policy and for guidance when it is available.

Please contact Bill Polglase at (FTS) 629-5251 if you have any questions on this matter.