



NHSM Supplemental Listing

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

September 20, 2013

Overview

- Supplemental NHSM listings very important
 - Rather use renewable, carbon neutral biomass than fossil fuels
 - Tens of millions of dollars at stake; several dozen mills use Paper Recycling Residuals, RR ties, and C&D Wood
- Business certainty needed for planning MACT compliance
 - Major investment decisions being made now
 - Examples – could use more PRR with improved material handling OR avoid buying gas boiler to replace PRR if it becomes a waste

Paper Recycling Residuals

- Meets all legitimacy criteria – contaminant comparison, value, and handling
- Define PRR Broadly
 - Residuals from repulping of cardboard, newsprint, printing and writing papers, and other pre and post consumer fibers
- Place no restrictions on BTU value
 - Boilers designed to economically recover energy – over/under air
 - Comparable to wet biomass – 3700 BTU/lb (ave.); need some wet fuels
- Don't restrict to onsite use - allow offsite use as well
 - Use in bioenergy facility
 - Listing could encourage use and reduce landfilling

Creosote Railroad Ties

- Meets all legitimacy criteria – contaminant comparison with solid and liquid fuels, high value, and handled as fuel
- Designed to Burn – currently, able to burn with appropriate feed mechanism
 - Statute and 241.4 regulations do not require DTB criteria instead balance all factors and list without restrictions
 - IF DTB retained, then make engineering assessment of boilers ability to burn, such as, use in certain types of boilers
 - Perverse outcomes – MACT limits and clean fuel start-up changing use and permitting of fuel oil, so historic use of oil should suffice
- List creosote treated railties (and borate)
- Other stakeholders seeking listing of other treated woods

Processed C&D Wood

- Meets all legitimacy criteria – contaminant comparison, value, and handling
- Some mills rely very heavily on C&D – up to 40%
 - High BTU fuel – consistent quality
- Support reasonable performance-based management practices suggested by BPA and CMRA (June 2013)
 - Addresses any lingering EPA concerns about outlier samples
 - Processors use varied techniques to reduced unwanted materials

Next Steps

- Any alternative fuel is carefully reviewed and permitted by states so environmental impacts are addressed.
- Environment may be worse off if undue restrictions on use of these three materials
 - Increase landfilling and fossil fuel use
- Ask OMB to complete review in October
- Give time to stakeholders to examine any issues and limitations and develop more information for EPA
 - 90 day comment period
- The earliest possible signal that these renewable biomass materials will remain fuels

Summary of Issues

- Very important that proposal is moving - thanks
- No or minimal limitations when listing three residuals
- PRR – define broadly, no BTU constraints, allow offsite use
- Rail ties – rely on the record not DTB to justify broad listing, include borate as well as creosote
- C&D – reasonable management practices, no testing
- Process – Get proposal out in October, need 90 day comment period