

Rule 13 Guidance for Poultry Incinerators

Abstract

The following will outline 45CSR13 (Rule 13) permit guidance for commercially-manufactured poultry incinerators that incinerate only poultry using pipeline-quality natural gas or propane. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture has in the past expressed a need for poultry farmers in West Virginia to own and/or operate a poultry incinerator to dispose of the normal mortality of poultry. This need arises by virtue of the on-going threat of Avian Influenza (AI) and other contagious diseases. This is a common-sense precaution against potential contamination. The emissions of the commercially-manufactured poultry incinerators addressed in this Guidance are far below the permitting thresholds of 6 pounds per hour and 10 tons per year or 144 pounds per day of regulated air pollutants outlined in 45CSR13. This Guidance only applies to commercially-manufactured poultry incinerators that incinerate only poultry using pipeline-quality natural gas or propane.

This guidance should not apply to sources being evaluated for synthetic minor permits for HAPs, PSD, and/or Title V. This Guidance does not prevent the Division of Air Quality (DAQ) from making Case-By-Case determinations for poultry incinerators that incinerate only poultry using pipeline-quality natural gas or propane. The DAQ reserves the right to evaluate all of these sources on a case-by-case basis and to require Rule 13 permits if needed. The purpose of this Guidance is to provide consistency among the permit engineers on how to evaluate these stationary sources for Rule 13.

Authority

DAQ's minor source permitting rule, Rule 13, sets forth the trigger thresholds and standards requiring a facility to obtain a Rule 13 permit.

Rule 13, Section 2, defines construction and modification as any physical change or change in the method of operation which "discharges (or results in an increase) or has the potential to discharge more than six (6) pounds per hour and ten (10) tons per year, or has the potential to discharge more than 144 pounds per calendar day, of any regulated air pollutant"

The Director is granting exemptions of Section 6 of 45CSR6 for poultry farm operators in West Virginia, provided that they comply with the terms and conditions set forth in this Guidance. Poultry farm operators complying with the terms and conditions set forth in this Guidance shall not be in violation of Section 6 of 45CSR6 "To Prevent And Control Air Pollution From Combustion Of Refuse," or, correspondingly, with 45CSR13 "Permits for Construction, Modification, Relocation and Operation of Stationary Sources of Air Pollutants, Notification Requirements, Administrative Updates, Temporary Permits, General Permits, and Procedures for Evaluation."

The result of the above discretionary reading of 45CSR13 is to allow new and modified commercially-manufactured poultry incinerators that incinerate only poultry using pipeline-quality natural gas or propane to determine whether or not a Rule 13 permit is required.

Procedure

Under this Guidance, commercially-manufactured poultry incinerators that incinerate only poultry using pipeline-quality natural gas or propane shall not be required to obtain a Rule 13 permit, as long as the following requirements are followed:

- Poultry incinerators shall not exceed the 6 pounds per hour and 10 tons per year or 144

July 18, 2006

pounds per day trigger thresholds for regulated air pollutants outlined in 45CSR13. Poultry farm operators shall maintain records from the manufacturer of the poultry incinerator demonstrating the poultry incinerator does not exceed these thresholds.

- Poultry incinerators shall be operated in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Poultry farm operators shall not exceed the maximum charge rate of poultry carcasses to the poultry incinerators recommended by the manufacturer. Poultry farm operators shall maintain records from the manufacturer of the maximum design criteria (i.e. maximum charge rate) for the poultry incinerator and all records shall be made available to the Director or duly-authorized representative upon request. Poultry farm operators shall maintain records in accordance with ATTACHMENT A of this Guidance. These records include monitoring the following parameters during the hours of operation of the poultry incinerator:
 - a. The charge rate to the poultry incinerator.
 - b. The time duration for the complete combustion cycle.

Such observations shall be recorded on a daily/monthly basis as per the reporting form appended hereto as ATTACHMENT A. All records shall be made available to the Director or duly-authorized representative upon request.

- The poultry incinerators shall only be used to dispose of the normal mortality of chickens and/or turkeys. The poultry incinerators shall not be used to incinerate diseased poultry. If diseased poultry are discovered, then operation of the poultry incinerator shall be terminated.
- The poultry incinerators shall be charged only with chicken or turkey carcasses.
- Particulate matter emissions to the atmosphere resulting from the operation of the poultry incinerators shall not exceed the standards set forth in Section 4 of 45CSR6.
- The poultry incinerators shall not exceed the visible particulate matter requirements set forth in Section 4 of 45CSR6, which states "No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit emission of smoke into the atmosphere from any incinerator which is twenty (20%) percent opacity or greater. These provisions shall not apply to smoke which is less than forty (40%) percent opacity, for a period or periods aggregating no more than eight (8) minutes per start-up, or six (6) minutes in any sixty (60)-minute period for stoking operations"
- The poultry incinerators shall be installed with a roof and, if at all possible, housed in a small shed, in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended guidelines on installation.
- Poultry farm operators shall complete registration forms for each poultry incinerator provided by the DAQ and these forms shall be sent to the Division of Air Quality, Attention: DAQ Director, 601 57th Street, SE, Charleston, WV 25304.
- Poultry farm operators that construct and/or operate commercially-manufactured poultry incinerators within West Virginia that do not follow this Guidance, that have not submitted a completed registration form to the DAQ, and that do not maintain records in accordance with ATTACHMENT A shall not qualify for this Guidance and shall obtain a Rule 13 permit.

July 18, 2006