Revising the HPV Oversight Process

Working Draft

Oct. 2010

Current HPV Policy Milestones

- Day Zero (maximum 90 days after discovery)
- Notice (within 60 days)
- Addressing Action (270 days/300 days)
- Resolving Action (no time requirements)
- ** Construction without a valid PSD or NNSR Permit is not required to meet these deadlines
 - See Section IV

Day Zero for Tracking HPVs

- The 'timeliness' of HPV milestones keys off of the Day Zero
- Day Zero is 45 days from initial discovery of violation (?)- but can be up to 90 days from initial discovery if additional monitoring or analysis is need to determine or confirm the violation.
- If violation is found via reports- then the Day Zero is no more than 30 days
- Data tracking doesn't accommodate for multiple regulation violations or multiple pollutant

violations

Notice

- Notice is a CAA statutory requirement; its date is used for calculating penalty; determining dates for SOL
- IG's report indicated that source's were not receiving notice in a timely manner
- A review of one region's HPV cases indicated that notice was being given prior to identifying the day zero
- Notice can be interpreted broadly to mean any document that identifies the violation to the source

Addressing Actions

- Addressing Action must be a legally enforceable administrative or judicial order, or a referral to AG or DOJ
- On average 36% of HPVs are not addressed within the 270/300 day timeline**
 - □ Federal Lead cases 251 days average
 - □ State Lead Cases 310 days average
- "In some complex cases, more time may be required"- but there is no limit in the policy

Resolving Actions

- "Resolved shall mean that "the source is returned to compliance"
 - All administrative/judicial action is complete and the "source had been confirmed to be complying with the CAA"
- "No formal timelines are established for this stage of the enforcement process"

Enforcement Lead Transfer

- Additional 30 days to address is provided if there is a lead change
 - Assumption that this is enough time because EPA would be able to use the State's NOV/FOV

Issues with Day Zero

The difference between discovery of a violation and identification of the violationi.e., its Day Zero- creates confusion; is it really necessary?

Day Zero/NOVs

Region	Total HPVs	Total NOVs	Avg. Days from Day Zero to NOV	Median Days from Day Zero to NOV
1	771	593	-16	-32
2	3282	2020	-21	-1
3	1192	1053	-6	0
4	4532	1527	36	0
5	4556	3677	-107	-46
6	3859	3147	5	0
7	789	679	-31	0
8	1086	735	-15	0
9	6235	7150	-13	0
10	970	387	-246	-65
			-41	0

Issues with Notice

 States/Local Agencies are often giving notice of the violation that would meet legal standards- but not considering it "NOV"

Issues with Addressing an HPV

- Process does not account for the source's return to compliance with the violation prior to an addressing action
- Timeline doesn't consider that several states do not have independent administrative enforcement authorityenforceable vehicles must come from AG's office
- Process does not recognized collaborative efforts with the source without enforceable vehicles
- Discovery of additional violations often delay the "addressing" of the initial violation

Issues with Addressing an HPV (con't)

 Does not accommodate for expedited treatment of violations that could be harmful to health, environment or program

Issues with Resolving

 Must wait until a CD is completely resolved to consider a violation "addressed"

Enforcement "Steps"

- Violation Occurs
- Investigation/Identification of Violation
 - Inspection, 114 response, Records Review, Periodic Reports
- State/EPA Consultation
- Decision to take enforcement action
- Notice of the Violation (s)
 - Conferring with the violator
- Administrative Order Issued
 - Order Appealed
- Referral
 - To DOJ or State AG office
 - To "enforcement" side of the program office
- Negotiation
- AOC, CD, Judicial Complaint, or No Further Action
- Enforcement Lead transfer