

**INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

**PS Memo 99-2**

TO: CP Permit Engineers

FROM: Dennis M. Myers

DATE: May 6, 1999

SUBJECT: Flares and general incinerator requirements

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Common Provisions defines an incinerator as “Any equipment, device, or contrivance used for the destruction of solids, liquids or gaseous wastes by burning, other than devices commonly called wigwam waste burners used exclusively to burn wood waste”.

A flare is a special type of incinerator that is used to burn combustible components, mostly hydrocarbons, of waste gases from industrial operations. Flares are used extensively to dispose of purged and wasted products from refineries, unrecoverable gases emerging with oil from oil wells, non-hazardous solvents from manufacturing processes, waste gases generated by sewage digesters, and for many other purposes.

A question has come up that if flares are considered incinerators, then are they subject to Regulation No. 6, Part B, Section VII requirements? This regulation has standards for particulate matter which include a grain loading standard and an opacity standard. The grain loading standard that applies depends on the charging rate per day to the incinerator. If the charging rate is greater than 50 tons per day, a grain loading standard of 0.08 gr/dscf applies. If the charging rate is less than 50 tons per day, a grain loading standard of 0.10 gr/dscf would apply.

The Division does not believe that it was the intent of this regulation to apply the grain loading standards to incinerators (including flares) that are burning only gaseous wastes. The idea of charging rates does not apply here, therefore the grain loading standards are not applicable. The opacity standards, however, would apply.

In addition, since the particulate grain loading standards do not apply, the sections of this regulation dealing with “Monitoring of Operations” and “Test Methods and Procedures” also would not apply. It should also be noted that Reg. 6, Part B incorporates Reg. 6, Part A (General Provisions) by reference. This means that in general the requirements of 60.18 are applicable. However, there may be specific situations where the Division may determine that the requirements of 60.18 should not be included in the permit. Please check with the unit supervisor before including the requirements of 60.18 in permits for incinerators (including flares) that are burning only gaseous wastes.