# Alphabet Soup: Quad OOOO

Jennifer Biever

Williams Weese Pepple & ferguson

#### The Basics

- NSPS 0000 0000c
- Issues
  - No rule language
  - ► Effective Date for New, Modified and Reconstructed for Proposed Rules
  - ▶ Effective Date for New, Modified and Reconstructed for Supplemental
  - ► Timing for Emissions Guideline Implementation
    - ▶ EPA allocates no cost until 2026
    - ► Anticipate phase in for certain sources

#### Affected/Designated Facility

- Storage Vessels/Batteries
- Fugitives (well sites, centralized production batteries, compressor stations and gas plants)
- Pneumatic Controllers
- Pumps
- Well Unloading

- Pigging and Blowdowns (potential)
- Truck Loadout (potential)
- Associated gas venting
- Compressors
- Control Devices
- Others (sweetening units, abandoned wells)

#### **Uh-oh!! Fugitive Emissions**

- Well sites with baseline emissions methane 3 tpy or greater
- Baseline emission threshold = de facto site specific methane inventory
- Baseline emissions may include malfunctions
- Emissions from CVS require repair as soon as practicable and may be a violation of no detectable emissions standard
- Control device malfunctions or operational upsets potential violations
- Repair or root cause analysis

- EPA proposed OGI protocol (Appendix K)
- Quarterly OGI or EPA Method 21 (well production)
  - > 3 tpy methane/compressor stations)
    - Alternate: 3 to 8 tpy methane semi-annual for well sites
- Tiered repair deadlines based on severity of the leaks
- Alternative screening technologies
  - Bi-monthly screening surveys/annual OG/Method 21
- Mechanisms for third parties to identify emissions events
- Expanded fugitive emissions component definition
  - Pneumatic controllers
  - Emissions from control devices

#### Oh No! Storage Tank Batteries

- Storage tank battery
  - Vapor or liquid manifolded
  - Adjacent
- 6 ton per year battery VOC threshold
  - ▶ 20 ton per year methane threshold
- Modification
  - Single vessel or battery modified when physical or operational change are made to the storage vessel or tank battery that results in increase in potential methane or VOC emissions.
  - Includes addition of storage vessels, increase in storage capacity, or vessel that receive additional oil, condensate, produced water throughput (refracturing, adding a well)
  - Unclear what compare emissions increase against (especially given move from tanks to battery)

- Legally and practically enforceable
  - Quantitative production limit and quantitative operational limits
  - Averaging time for production equal to or less than 30 days
  - Parametric limits
  - Monitoring of parametric limits to demonstrate continuous compliance
  - Recordkeeping and reporting

# Wait a Minute! Pneumatic Controllers

- Each pneumatic controller is affected facility
- All new, modified, reconstructed controllers have zero emissions
- Includes self-contained, instrument air, electric
- Maintain documentation not an affected facility
- No exclusions for allowing natural gas driven pneumatics for safety or process or other considerations

 Proposed existing source guidelines to require zero emitting pneumatic controllers

### Say What?? Well Liquids Unloading

- Requires liquids unloading with zero methane or VOC emissions unless not technically feasible or safe
- Unclear whether limited to gas wells
- ▶ In such case, use BMPs
- Option 1: affected facility defined as every well that undergoes liquids unloading (including nonemitting)
  - Maintain records of number of unloads (even if do not emit)

- Option 2: Affected facility is every well that undergoes unloading using a method that is not designed to totally eliminate venting
- Suggests that non-venting well unloading is common practice
- ► Each well liquids unloading event is a modification

## Oh Heck! Control Device Performance

- Control Devices
  - ► Control efficiency 98%
  - Additional flare performance measures
  - Monitoring of flow, pilot flames, visible emissions
  - OGI continuous flame imaging systems

## Well There You Have It! Compressors and Pumps

- Reciprocating Compressors:
  - Monitor rod packing emissions annually using flow measurement; replace rod packing when monitoring indicates a flow rate for any individual cylinder exceeds 2 scfm
    - or route to process via closed vent system under negative pressure
  - Applies to centralized tank batteries

- Pumps
  - Includes natural gas driven piston pumps in addition to diaphragm pumps

#### Okay I Quit! The Rest

- Associated Gas Flaring
  - Requires routing associated gas to a sales line
  - Affected facility any oil well that produces associated gas
  - ► Flare requirements for 60.18

- Pigging
  - Controls, elimination of gas venting, reduction of pigging frequency
  - ► Liquids management techniques
- ► Truck Loadout

#### Next Steps

- Comments
- State Rules Existing Sources/Relationship to Existing and Pending Rules
  - Existing state rules
  - Pending state rules
  - Options for your state
  - ► Timing

QUESTIONS