
OAR Box 1608

Prepped by Keeia Richards

Document Number:

80) II-C-5

Docket Number:

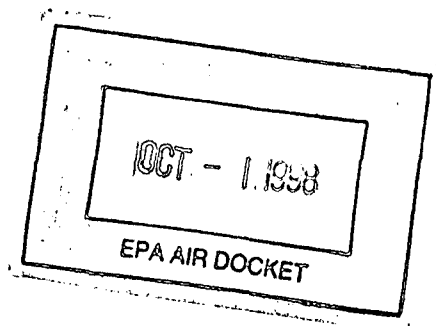
A-97-13

A-97-13
II-C-5UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27711

JUN 19 1995

OFFICE OF
AIR QUALITY PLANNING
AND STANDARDS

Mr. Gordon Arbuckle
Batton and Boggs
1660 Lincoln Street
Suite 1975
Denver, Colorado 80264



Dear Mr. Arbuckle:

The EPA recently received a report on the status of the emission test for the Fleischmann's facilities from MRI. We appreciate the cooperative nature and open communication that Fleischmann's has maintained throughout the planning and testing of the various facilities. We are eager to discuss the results with you.

Since there have been unexpected delays in obtaining the test results from Fleischmann's, the EPA, in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland Department of the Environment, has continued to develop the proposed rule for the Baker's Yeast Source Category. We plan to distribute a draft rule and preamble to industry for comment by the end of June. The final draft of the proposed rule would be circulated for the Administrator's signature by the end of August. We hope to schedule a meeting in July to discuss the draft of the proposed rule with industry participants. Consequently, we are reaching a critical point for consideration of the Fleischmann's data in the proposed rule.

At the industry meeting to discuss the presumptive MACT determination, Fleischmann's indicated that they were without a basis to support or oppose the presumptive MACT, because their facilities had not historically tracked acetaldehyde emissions. Fleischmann's requested time to test their facilities to determine whether the Presumptive MACT determination was supportable, and to provide more accurate data on the Fleischmann's facilities than is currently available to the EPA.

It was the EPA's hope that the data from Fleischmann's would confirm the general approach of establishing a total acetaldehyde emission limit on the group of fermenters and using ethanol monitoring as a surrogate for the acetaldehyde emissions to demonstrate continuous compliance. Since estimated emissions from the Memphis, Tennessee plant were used in the calculation of the MACT floor, the EPA recognizes that the new data may increase or decrease the minimum level of emission control required by the MACT floor, if an arithmetic mean is used to calculate the MACT floor. This type of change to the proposed rule can be easily accommodated until preparation of the package for the Administrator's signature.

The status report from MRI makes the following statement: "The Fleischmann's data is critical because we have some serious concerns about the quality of data currently available to the EPA." We agree that the information from Fleischmann's facility is likely to be beneficial to the development of a final emission standard for the Baker's Yeast Source Category; and we are committed to considering this data regardless of whether it is submitted before or after proposal of the emission standard. However, we do not believe that the current data is inadequate. While the information from Fleischmann's may augment the existing data, it is unlikely to be used in lieu of the existing data. This conclusion is based on preliminary discussions with MRI which seem to indicate that Fleischmann's facilities are not among the best performing 12 percent of existing sources in the source category. Therefore, we believe we can proceed with the proposal of the emission standard and publish a supplemental notice of data availability if the information from Fleischmann's is forthcoming.

As you know, the calculation of the MACT floor for this source category is based on the average emission limitation achieved by the best performing five sources in the category, because there are fewer than 30 sources in the category. The following dataset represents the current emission rates used to calculate the MACT floor:

Facility 1	0.26 lb Acet/ton
Facility 2	0.36 lb Acet/ton
Facility 3	0.79 lb Acet/ton
Facility 4	0.85 lb Acet/ton
Facility 5	1.16 lb Acet/ton

Arithmetic mean = 0.68 lbAcet/ton

Please note that these figures are slightly different from those used in the presumptive MACT determination. There are two reasons for these changes. We recently learned that one facility in the category has ceased operations. Based on this information, we have made a policy decision to exclude this data from consideration at this time. In addition, new emissions information has been received for some facilities. It is important to also understand that several facilities are currently improving emission control operations to comply with Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) rules. If new emissions information is received for these facilities before finalizing the rule, it is likely to increase the stringency level of the final rule.

With the exception of one facility, the emission information used to calculate the MACT floor is based on actual test data of acetaldehyde emissions. Generally, four continuous samples of acetaldehyde were measured during each fermentation stage at each facility. These samples were used to derive a time-weighted, average concentration. This value along with the average exhaust flow rate was used to calculate total emissions from each fermenter.

To determine the emission rate for the multi-staged batch, the total emissions from each fermenter is summed and divided by the total tons of liquid yeast produced in the last-stage fermenters. This is illustrated in the February 8, 1995 draft memo that was sent to MRI for review. This memo does not provide different methodologies for calculating compliance, but shows how the same methodology would be applied to various operating scenarios. If these scenarios do not adequately represent operations at Fleischmann's facilities, we are willing to add additional example, or discuss alternative procedures for compliance calculations.

We have been assuming that everyone in the industry would prefer to monitor ethanol as a surrogate for acetaldehyde emissions rather than taking actual acetaldehyde measurements to demonstrate continuous compliance. However, if acetaldehyde emissions are directly monitored, we believe that a time-weighted average concentration based on four continuous samples per fermentation cycle for each complete batch would be sufficient to demonstrate compliance. The data that we currently have satisfies this requirement. The methods used to collect this information include NIOSH Method 3705 and EPA Method T0-5. These are among the list of approved methods that we intend to include in the proposed rule. I hope these responses address some of your concerns about the data used to determine the MACT emission limitation.

I would like to schedule a conference call to provide Fleischmann's (and MRI) the opportunity to clarify any additional concerns you might have. I have tentatively scheduled a conference line for **June 28th from 10:00am-12:00am**. The call-in number is **919-541-1591**. Please let me know whether you are interested in further discussion on these matters. If this is inconvenient, we can reschedule for another mutually convenient time.

Sincerely,



Lynn E. Hutchinson

cc: ✓ Roger Fritz, WDNR
Rubin Deza, MDOE
Jonathan Thornburg, WDNR
Susan Rasor, MRI
Trip Seizmore, Seizmore and Assoc.

