

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO GEORGIA'S RULES FOR AIR QUALITY CONTROL
CHAPTER 391-3-1**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Environmental Protection Division (hereinafter, "EPD") of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources proposes Amendments to Georgia's Rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1 (hereinafter, "the proposed Air Rule Amendments"). The Director of EPD certifies that the amendments to rule 391-3-1-.01 are required to comply with Section 110(a) of the Federal Clean Air Act (CAA), and the amendments to rule 391-3-1-.02 are required to comply with Sections 110(a), 111(c)(1), and 112(l) of the CAA and to exercise authority approved and/or delegated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to implement Section 110 of the CAA. The proposed Air Rule Amendments are described below:

Rule 391-3-1-.01, "Definitions," is being revised to update the definition of "Procedures for Testing and Monitoring Sources of Air Pollutants," also known as PTM.

Rule 391-3-1-.02(2)(a)11., "Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction Emissions for SIP-Approved Rules," is being removed because it is no longer required. On June 12, 2015, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published in the Federal Register a final action calling for Georgia to submit a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision (i.e., a SIP call) to correct provisions inconsistent with Clean Air Act (CAA) requirements related to excess emissions during periods of startup, shutdown, and malfunction (SSM). Georgia EPD updated its SSM rules and submitted the updates as a SIP revision to EPA on September 13, 2023. On March 1, 2024, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit vacated EPA's SSM "SIP call" in part with respect to automatic exemptions, director's discretion provisions, and certain affirmative defense provisions. Based on the Court's vacatur, Georgia EPD is no longer required to update the Georgia SIP to meet EPA's SSM "SIP call." Georgia EPD officially withdrew the 2023 SIP on June 25, 2024.

Rule 391-3-1-.02(2)(mmm), "NOx Emissions from Stationary Gas Turbines and Stationary Engines used to Generate Electricity," is being revised to add an exemption to allow the electric utilities to utilize emergency generators to provide power to the electric grid during periods of power interruption or severe weather events. The rule is also being revised to add clarity to the definition of emergency standby stationary gas turbines and stationary engines, add a definition for emergency standby stationary engines at data centers, update a citation, correct grammar, and fix typographical errors. This rule update will align the State rule with the Federal rule.

Rule 391-3-1-.02(7), "Prevention of Significant Deterioration of Air Quality," is being revised so that the most recent version of the federal modeling guidelines is incorporated by reference and to correct typographical errors. Rule 391-3-1-.02(7) will be submitted as a SIP revision to EPA.

Rule 391-3-1-.02(8), “New Source Performance Standards,” is being revised to adopt the Federal Performance Standards into the Georgia Rules by reference to ensure consistency between the State and Federal programs and to fix typographical errors.

Rule 391-3-1-.02(9), “Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants,” is being revised to adopt the Federal Emission Standards into the Georgia Rules by reference to ensure consistency between the State and Federal programs and to fix typographical errors.

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed Air Rule Amendments, a synopsis, and a statement of rationale of the rule revisions, is being provided to all persons who have requested in writing that they be placed on a notification list. These documents may be viewed at <https://epd.georgia.gov/chapter-391-3-1-air-quality-control> or by appointment only at the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 104, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. To set an appointment, email askepd@dnr.ga.gov with your name, email and phone number and an associate will reach out to you. Copies may also be requested by contacting Elisabeth Munsey, Elisabeth.Munsey@dnr.ga.gov, Anna Aponte, Anna.Aponte1@dnr.ga.gov, or the Environmental Protection Division Director’s Office at askepd@dnr.ga.gov.

To provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed Air Rule Amendments, a public hearing will be held at 3:00 p.m. on May 1, 2025. EPD will be hosting this public hearing via Zoom. Zoom is a free web conferencing platform that also allows participation by phone.

To log into the public hearing on your computer, please click this link or copy and paste it into your browser to join the meeting:
<https://gaepd.zoom.us/j/91751716840?pwd=I8d2B0A3JxhbkU2at9DXNkRBiVma3k.1>

To ensure that you are ready to participate when the meeting begins, we recommend that you download Zoom in advance. Zoom can be found here: <https://zoom.us>

To dial in by phone, please call this number: 888-788-0099 (Toll free). When prompted, enter the Meeting ID and/or Passcode shown below.

The meeting ID is 917 5171 6840
Passcode: 342025

Please note that if you choose to participate by phone, your phone number may be visible to other meeting attendees.

During the hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment, or offer a viewpoint or argument either orally or in writing. Oral statements should be concise. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted in writing for the official record.

Written comments are welcomed. To ensure their inclusion in EPD's package for the Board of Natural Resources, written comments must be received by 4:30 PM on May 8, 2025. Written comments may be emailed to Air-General.Comments@dnr.ga.gov or sent via regular mail addressed to: Branch Chief, Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia, 30354.

The proposed Air Rule Amendments will be considered for adoption by the Board of Natural Resources at its meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 24, 2025. The meeting will be open to the public and held at Ft. Yargo State Park located at 210 S. Broad Street, Winder, GA 30680.

The proposed Air Rule Amendments are proposed for adoption pursuant to authority contained in the Georgia Air Quality Act (O.C.G.A. Section 12-9-1 et. seq.). For further information, contact Anna Aponte, (470) 251-2942 at the Air Protection Branch.