

**SYNOPSIS OF
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
AIR QUALITY CONTROL, CHAPTER 391-3-1**

Rule 391-3-1-.03(8), “Permit Requirements” is being amended.

Purpose: The Non-Attainment Area New Source Review (NAA NSR) Rule was added to the Georgia Rules in 1992 after the Atlanta Metro Area was designated as serious non-attainment for the 1-hour ozone standard. The NAA NSR Rule was amended to define a major source as a source that emits or has the potential-to-emit at least 50 tpy of NO_x or VOCs. In 2004, that definition was change to 25 tpy. U.S. EPA has since revoked the 1-hour ozone standard, and air quality in the Atlanta Metro Area has improved. The NAA NSR Rule can now be removed.

Main Features: This rule is being revised to remove subparagraph 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)13., “Additional Provisions for Ozone Non-Attainment Areas for Counties that were Formerly Part of the 1-hour Ozone Non-Attainment Area” (NAA NSR Rule). Subparagraphs that refer to 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)13. are being updated. The 13 formerly *severe* counties (Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dekalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale) are being moved to subparagraph 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)14. Subparagraph 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)14. is being renamed. Five counties (Barrow, Carroll, Hall, Spalding, and Walton) are being moved from subparagraph 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)14. to subparagraph 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)15.

Subparagraph (a), “General Requirements,” of Rule 391-3-1-.03(10), “Title V Operating Permits,” is being amended.

Purpose: Subparagraph 391-3-1-.03(10)(a)4.(ii) is being removed because the area is no longer designated as a severe nonattainment area and the Title V major source threshold of 25 tpy of NO_x and VOCs (for severe nonattainment counties) no longer applies.

Main Features: This rule is being revised to remove subparagraph 391-3-1-.03(10)(a)4.(ii), which requires a source in the original 13-county nonattainment area to have a Title V permit at 25 tpy, a lower emission level than sources outside the nonattainment area. Sources in the 13-county area will now be required to have a Title V permit at 100 tpy.

STATEMENT OF RATIONALE
Rules for Air Quality Control

Rule 391-3-1-.03(8) – Permit Requirements.

The basis of this rule is to provide permitting requirements for non-attainment areas in Georgia. The purpose of this revision is to remove “Additional Provisions for Ozone Non-Attainment Areas for Counties that were Formerly Part of the 1-hour Ozone Non-Attainment Area” (NAA NSR Rule) from Georgia Rules. The NAA NSR Rule is no longer required since this area has been re-designated to attainment and EPA has revoked the 1-hour ozone standard.

Rule 391-3-1-.03(10) – Title V Operating Permits.

The basis of this rule is to implement the Title V permitting program. The purpose of this revision is to increase major source permitting thresholds for the 13 formerly severe counties from 25 tpy to 100 tpy of NO_x and VOCs. The rule is being revised because the provisions of the NAA NSR Rule are no longer required since the area has been re-designated to attainment and EPA has revoked the 1-hour ozone standard.

These revisions are in no way any more restrictive than the federal requirements and remove unnecessary and burdensome permitting requirements on sources in the 13 formerly severe counties.