

## Virginia Town Hall Notice for Revisions to Virginia's Opacity Standards

Petition Information	
<b>Petition Title</b>	Virginia's Opacity Standards - Amendment of Chapter 40 - Sections 80 and 940
<b>Date Filed</b>	8/25/2008
<b>Petitioner</b>	Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee
<b>Petitioner's Request</b>	<p>MWAQC is concerned that the opacity standards for new and existing facilities in Virginia are set at a level that is too high to be sufficiently protective of human health. On March 7, 2008, MWAQC adopted a resolution to petition the Air Board to revise the opacity standard. The District of Columbia and Maryland have much stricter opacity standards (0-10%) for emissions from point sources in the Metropolitan Washington D.C. non-attainment area. In contrast, Virginia's opacity standard at 20%, is the least stringent of the three jurisdictions. MWAQC requests that the State Air Pollution Control Board lower the Virginia opacity standard from 20% to 10%, at least in the Northern Virginia region, to be more consistent with those of the District of Columbia and Maryland. MWAQC believes that such action could help to improve air quality in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area.</p>
<b>Agency's Plan</b>	Receive comments on the petition for 21 days and present petition and comments to State Air Pollution Control Board for a decision on whether or not to initiate a rulemaking.
<b>Comment Period</b>	Will begin 9/29/2008 and end on 10/20/2008
<b>Agency Decision</b>	Pending

<b>Petition Information</b>	
<b>Petition Title</b>	Virginia's Opacity Standard - Amendment of Chapter 50 - Section 80
<b>Date Filed</b>	8/25/2008
<b>Petitioner</b>	Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee
<b>Petitioner's Request</b>	<p>MWAQC is concerned that the opacity standards for new and existing facilities in Virginia are set at a level that is too high to be sufficiently protective of human health. On March 7, 2008, MWAQC adopted a resolution to petition the Air Board to revise the opacity standard. The District of Columbia and Maryland have much stricter opacity standards (0-10%) for emissions from point sources in the Metropolitan Washington D.C. non-attainment area. In contrast, Virginia's opacity standard at 20%, is the least stringent of the three jurisdictions. MWAQC requests that the State Air Pollution Control Board lower the Virginia opacity standard from 20% to 10%, at least in the Northern Virginia region, to be more consistent with those of the District of Columbia and Maryland. MWAQC believes that such action could help to improve air quality in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area.</p>
<b>Agency's Plan</b>	Receive comments on the petition for 21 days and present petition and comments to State Air Pollution Control Board for a decision on whether or not to initiate a rulemaking.
<b>Comment Period</b>	Will begin 9/29/2008 and end on 10/20/2008
<b>Agency Decision</b>	Pending