

FACT SHEET

FINAL RULE TO REDUCE TOXIC AIR EMISSIONS FROM IRON AND STEEL FOUNDRIES

ACTION

- ! On August 29, 2003 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a final rule to reduce emissions of toxic air pollutants from iron and steel foundries. Toxic air pollutants, or air toxics, are known or suspected to cause cancer and other health problems.
- ! Iron and steel foundries melt scrap, ingot, and other forms of iron and steel and pour the resulting molten metal into molds to produce shaped products. The rule will affect about 100 foundries, most of which are operated by manufacturers of automobiles and large industrial equipment and by their suppliers.
- ! The rule includes emission limits for manufacturing processes and pollution prevention-based requirements to reduce air toxics from furnace charge materials and coating/binder formulations.

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS AND COSTS

- ! This rule will reduce air emissions of benzene, chromium, dioxin, lead, manganese, mercury, methanol, nickel, and triethylamine. The health effects associated with exposure to these air toxics can include cancer and chronic or acute disorders of the respiratory, reproductive, and central nervous systems.
- ! The final rule is expected to reduce air toxics from iron and steel foundries by about 820 tons per year. This rule will also reduce air emissions of other pollutants by about 2,550 tons per year.
- ! EPA estimates the total annualized cost for foundries to comply with the rule at \$21 million. This includes costs for adding and upgrading control equipment, monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting. No adverse impacts on the industry or small firms are expected.

BACKGROUND

- ! The Clean Air Act requires EPA to identify categories of industrial sources that emit one or more of the listed 188 toxic air pollutants.
- ! The final rule applies to each new or existing iron and steel foundry that is a major source of

toxic air pollutants. Major sources are those that emit 10 tons per year or more of a single toxic air pollutant, or 25 tons per year or more of a combination of toxic air pollutants.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ! To download a copy of the rule, go to EPA's Worldwide Web site at *<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/>* under newly proposed or issued rules.

- ! For further information about the final rule, contact Mr. Kevin Cavender of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-2364 or *cavender.kevin@epa.gov*.

- ! The EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's homepage on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program and many other air pollution programs and issues. The Office of Air and Radiation's home page address is: *<http://www.epa.gov/oar/>*.