



# NC CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Advancing Clean Energy for a Sustainable Economy

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## Does Your Facility Have a Boiler Subject to the Boiler MACT?? If so, don't be "hammered" by the upcoming Switch-over date



*Presently in the State of North Carolina, a state rule applies to many major source boilers subject to the Clean Air Act pollution standard "National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Major Sources: Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Boilers and Process Heaters. This rule is commonly referred to as the Boiler MACT (Maximum Achievable Control Technology). On **May 20, 2019**, a switch-over will occur at which time affected units will be required to be in compliance with the federal Boiler MACT rule. There are several strategies that facilities with affected units may implement prior to that date to ease compliance requirements. These include replacing affected units with natural gas-fired boilers or combined heat and power systems and implementing process energy efficiency measures.*

Many facilities with boilers and process heaters in North Carolina subject to the federal major source Boiler MACT are currently regulated by the state under Section 112(j) of the Clean Air Act (CAA). This section of the CAA is commonly referred to as the "MACT Hammer" rule. Under this provision, the state of North Carolina issued case-by-case permits for affected boilers that are in effect until the "switch-over date" at which time the affected units must be in compliance with the federal Major Source Boiler MACT (40 CFR 63 subpart DDDDD). The switch-over date is currently set as May 20, 2019. It should be noted that the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) is currently responding to a DC Circuit Court- issued remand of the numeric emission standards established for all 18 boiler subcategories in the Boiler MACT. Since the Court agreed to a remand (versus a vacatur), the current requirements remain in place until it is determined that EPA has

satisfactorily responded to the challenges filed. The ultimate timeline for settlement of the challenges could potentially impact the date of the switch-over.

Now is the time to take action to assure that your facility's boilers will be in compliance with the federal Boiler MACT before the switch-over date. The NC Department of Environmental Quality estimates that there are currently 77 major source units burning coal, oil or wood in the state, mostly at manufacturing sites, that will be affected by this change.

One strategy a site might consider is to replace existing affected units with natural-gas fueled combined heat and power systems (CHP). Since CHP uses a single fuel source to generate power and heat, these systems are more efficient and can have a positive economic return for a plant over time.

Facilities that have not completed a one-time energy assessment for major source units that will remain in service must complete the assessment by the switch-over date. These energy assessments can identify cost-effective energy efficiency measures that, if implemented, can earn the site credit toward complying with the applicable emission standards.

The North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center, which manages the DOE Southeast Combined Heat and Power Technical Assistance Partnership (CHP TAP) can perform a no-cost CHP Qualification Screening. We can also help with completing the one-time energy assessment required for compliance or help identify appropriate resources as needed.

Contact Art Samberg ([asamber@ncsu.edu](mailto:asamber@ncsu.edu) or **919-515- 0354**) or Kimberly Conley ([kjconley@ncsu.edu](mailto:kjconley@ncsu.edu) or **919-515- 0903**) to inquire about assistance in applying these strategies.

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DOE Southeast CHP TAP - [www.southeastchptap.org](http://www.southeastchptap.org)  
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