**Section 205.320 Baseline Emissions**

a) Except as provided in subsection (b) or (c) of this Section, baseline emissions shall be determined by the Agency in accordance with the following, adjusted as specified in subsections (d), (e) and (f) of this Section:

1) Baseline emissions shall be calculated using the average of the two seasonal allotment periods with the highest VOM emissions during 1994, 1995 or 1996.

2) Any source may propose to substitute seasonal emissions on a year-for-year basis due to non-representative conditions in 1994, 1995 or 1996, but must stay within the period from 1990 through 1997, and must have accurate seasonal emissions data for the substitute year(s). When considering whether to substitute a seasonal baseline emission year(s), the Agency must consider the information submitted by the source pursuant to Section 205.310(b)(1)(B) of this Subpart, as well as the accuracy of that data. For the purposes of this subsection (a)(2) "non-representative conditions" include, but are not limited to, events such as strikes, fires, floods and market conditions.

b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this Section, for any source that has seasonal emissions of less than 10 tons, as determined in accordance with subsection (a) of this Section, but becomes a participating source because its seasonal emissions increase to 10 tons or more in any seasonal allotment period beginning with 1999, baseline emissions shall be determined by the Agency based on actual VOM emissions from the first seasonal allotment period in which the source's emissions equaled or exceeded 10 tons, adjusted as specified in subsections (d), (e) and (f) of this Section, provided such emissions increase is not a major modification pursuant to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 203.

c) For any source that has seasonal emissions of less than 10 tons, as determined in accordance with subsection (a) of this Section, but becomes a participating source because its seasonal emissions increase to 10 tons or more in any seasonal allotment period beginning with 1999 and this emissions increase constitutes a major modification pursuant to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 203, baseline emissions shall be determined by the Agency based on the average of the actual seasonal emissions from the two seasonal periods prior to a timely submittal of its application for the major modification, adjusted as specified in subsections (d) and (e) of this Section. Any such source may substitute seasonal emissions on a year-for-year basis due to non-representative conditions in either of the two seasonal allotment periods prior to submittal of its application for the major modification but must stay within the five year period prior to submittal of such application. For the purposes of this subsection, "non-representative conditions" include, but are not limited to, conditions such as strikes, fires, floods and market conditions.

d) The baseline emissions of any participating source shall be increased for voluntary over-compliance that occurred after October 31, 1990 and results in a VOM emissions level that is lower than the level required by applicable requirements effective in 1996, including limitations in the source's permit(s) based on such applicable requirements. Voluntary over-compliance shall be determined in accordance with the following:

1) Determine the actual activity or production types and levels from the seasonal allotment period(s) selected for baseline emissions pursuant to subsection (a), (b) or (c) of this Section;

2) Determine seasonal emissions for each emission unit as the product of the amount of activity or production, as determined in accordance with subsection (d)(1) of this Section, and the actual emissions level;

3) Determine seasonal emissions for each emission unit as the product of the amount of activity or production, as determined in accordance with subsection (d)(1) of this Section, and the allowable emissions level pursuant to all applicable requirements effective through 1996, including limitations in the source's permit(s) based on such applicable requirements; and

4) Determine the appropriate adjustment to baseline emissions by subtracting the seasonal emissions determined pursuant to subsection (d)(2) of this Section from the seasonal emissions determined pursuant to subsection (d)(3) of this Section.

e) The baseline emissions of any participating source shall be decreased if any of the following circumstances exist:

1) If a source is out of compliance with any applicable requirements, including limitations in the source's permit(s) based on such applicable requirements, in any of the seasonal allotment periods used for baseline emissions, its baseline emissions shall be lowered to reflect the amount of VOM emissions that would be achieved if in compliance with such requirements.

2) If any of the seasonal allotment periods selected for baseline emissions do not reflect compliance with requirements effective through 1996 that became applicable after any of the years selected as baseline years, the source's baseline emissions shall be lowered to reflect the amount of VOM emissions that would be achieved if in compliance with such requirements.

3) If, in any of the years selected for baseline emissions, a source's VOM emissions are in excess of the amount of VOM emissions allowed by applicable rules because it has been granted a variance, has entered into a consent order, or is operating pursuant to a CAAPP permit compliance schedule, the baseline emissions for such source shall be lowered to reflect the VOM emissions amount that would be achieved if in compliance with such requirements, subject to the following:

A) Each such source shall be allowed to emit VOM emissions in excess of the ATUs it holds at the end of the reconciliation period each year until compliance with the applicable regulation is achieved, or upon expiration of the relief allowed for in the variance, consent order or CAAPP permit compliance schedule, whichever occurs first;

B) Such excess VOM emissions shall be allowed to the extent allowed in the variance, consent order or CAAPP permit compliance schedule; and

C) The seasonal component of the Annual Emissions Report for each such source shall be adjusted each year until compliance with the applicable requirement(s) is achieved, or upon expiration of the relief allowed for in the variance, consent order or CAAPP permit compliance schedule, whichever occurs first, as specified in subsection (e)(3)(B) of this Section.

4) For any participating source that operated with excess emissions during startup, malfunction or breakdown during any year used to determine its baseline emissions, whether or not such operation was authorized pursuant to the source's permit, excess VOM emissions attributable to startup, malfunction or breakdown shall be excluded from the baseline emissions.

f) For new or modified emission units at a source for which a construction permit was issued prior to January 1, 1998, but for which three years of operational data is not available, the baseline emissions determination for the source shall include VOM emissions from such new emission unit or the increase in emissions from the modification of such emission unit based on the two seasonal allotment periods with the highest VOM emissions from the first three complete seasonal allotment periods in which any such new or modified emission unit is operational. ATUs shall only be issued in accordance with this subsection after the baseline emissions has been determined. Any such source shall not be required to hold ATUs for VOM emissions attributable to the new emission unit or the modification of the existing emission unit for the first three complete seasonal allotment periods in which it is operational.

g) For any source which acquired emission reduction credits pursuant to a written agreement, entered into prior to January 1, 1998, and such emission reduction credits were acquired for use as emissions offsets, in accordance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code 203, such emission reduction credits, adjusted for the seasonal allotment period, and reduced by 24 percent, shall be included in the baseline emissions determination for the source, only to the extent that:

1) The Agency has issued a federally enforceable permit, prior to January 1, 1998, to the source from which the emission reduction credits were acquired, and such federally enforceable permit recognized the creation of the VOM emission reduction credits by the cessation of all VOM-emitting activities and the withdrawal of the operating permits for VOM-emitting activities at such other sources; and

2) The Agency has not relied upon the emission reduction credits to demonstrate attainment or reasonable further progress.

(Source: Amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 8848, effective June 13, 2005)