EMISSIONS STANDARDS

PHILIPPINES

IEA
CLEAN COAL CENTRE

WWW.IEA-COAL.ORG

PHILIPPINES

The Philippines Clean Air Act of 1999 (Republic Act No. 8749) outlines the government's measures to reduce air pollution and incorporate environmental protection into its development plans. It relies heavily on the polluter pays principle and other market-based instruments to promote self-regulation among the population. It sets emission standards for all motor vehicles and issues pollutant limitations for industry. The emission limit values for the Philippines are laid down by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Administrative order no. 2000-81, *Implementing rules and regulations for RA 8749*. These rules and regulations apply to all industrial emissions and other establishments which are potential sources of air pollution.

Emission standards for particulate matter from stationary sources

	Emission source		
	Fuel burning equipment		Other stationary sources[4]
	Urban[1] and industrial area[2]	Other area[3]	
Emission limit, mg/m^3	150	200	200

[1] An urban area is a población or central district of cities or municipalities with a population of at least 50,000, or twin political subdivisions with a contiguous boundary which essentially form one community, whose population is more than 50,000.

[2] The term 'industrial area' refers to a well-defined area in various stages of development that is primarily established for industrial subdivisions, manufacturing and other industries with provisions for common support infrastructures, facilities and services. These areas are usually 200 to 500 hectares in size and are registered with the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board, or another authorised government entity, as industrial estates. Export processing zones also fall into this category.

[3] All areas other than urban or industrial areas are classified as 'other area'.

[4] Other stationary sources include a trade, process, industrial plant, or piece of fuel burning equipment other than thermal power plants, industrial boilers, cement plants, incinerators, or smelting furnaces.

Emission standards for SOx from stationary sources

	Existing source		New source	
	Fuel burning equipment	Other source*	Fuel burning equipment	Other source*
Emission limit, mg/m^3	1500 (as SO_2)	1000 (as SO_3)	700 as (SO_2)	200 (as SO_3)

* 'Other source' refers to existing and new stationary sources other than fuel burning and incineration equipment, or those involved in the manufacture of sulphuric acid and the sulphonation process.

Emission standards for NOx (as NO_2) from stationary sources

	Fuel burning steam generator		Other sources*	
	Existing source	New source	Existing source	New source
Emission limit, mg/m^3	1500	1000	1000	500

* 'Other sources' refer to stationary sources other than fuel burning steam/power generators and equipment, or those involved with the manufacture of nitric acid.

Emission standard for mercury

The emission limit for mercury (as elemental Hg) for any stationary source is 5 mg/m^3.

Emission standard for smoke and opacity

The opacity of smoke emitted from any stationary source should not exceed shade 1 on the Ringelmann Chart nor 20% opacity.

General notes

1. An existing source is any source already erected, installed and in operation; or any source for which instruction has been offered for bidding, or actual construction has commenced, prior to the date of effectivity of these Implementing Rules and Regulations. Any existing source which, in the opinion of the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources, has undergone a modification after the date of adoption of an applicable rule or regulation, shall be reclassified and considered a new source.

2. A new source is any plant, equipment, or installation in any trade, business, or establishment which generates, emits, or deposes air emissions into the atmosphere constructed after the date of effectivity of these Implementing Rules and Regulations. This includes any existing stationary source transferred or moved to a different location or site for the purpose of installation, operation, or use after such date.

3. Reference conditions for the above standards are 25°C, 101.3 kPa (760 mmHg) and on a dry flue gas basis.

THE CLEAN AIR PROGRAMME

On 24 April 2019, the DENR stated on its website that it will be implementing a series of new environmental protection programmes and projects, among which is the Clean Air Programme. This programme covers the full implementation of the Clean Air Act, with the objective of establishing a comprehensive national programme to achieve and maintain air quality standards that meet the National Air Quality Guidelines for Criteria Pollutants throughout the Philippines. The named priorities of the Programme are: the monitoring of the compliance of firms and industries; the operationalisation of airshed governing boards; and the calibration and maintenance of air quality monitoring stations. In order to achieve these goals, the Clean Air Programme is split into three sub-programmes:

1. The Motor Vehicle Emission Management Programme,

2. The Industrial Emission Management Programme, and

3. Roadside ambient and general ambient air monitoring.

Updated: August 2019