



## South Africa

The Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act (No. 45 of 1965) was enacted on 21 April 1965, providing the legal basis of policies for air pollution prevention in South Africa and for the establishment of a National Air Pollution Advisory Committee. The National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (No. 39 of 2004) came into force on 11 September 2005. The Air Quality Act mandates that norms, standards, mechanisms, systems and procedures be issued to improve air quality. It establishes the national framework within which these standards will be created, giving the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism or the members of the Executive Council of a province (MEC) the authority to issue standards, enforce regulations and other measures, and implement penalties for noncompliance and establish 'funding arrangements'. Under this Act, the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism drafted Regulations Relating to Listed Activities and Minimum Emission Standards in which the emission limit values for emissions of air pollutants from combustion plants and industrial processes are set. The Minimum Emissions Standards, which took effect from 1 April 2010, apply to both permanently operated plants and for experimental (pilot) plants with a design capacity equivalent to the one of a listed activity. A 'new plant standard' applies to all plants applying for authorisation after 1 April 2010, while existing plant had until 1 April 2015 to comply with the 'existing plant standard' and until 1 April 2020 to meet the new plant standard. The Minimum Emissions Standards are published in the Government, no. 33064, pp 3-36 (31 March 2010), available at [https://www.environment.gov.za/sites/default/files/gazetted\\_notices/nemaqa\\_listofactivities\\_g33064\\_gon248.pdf](https://www.environment.gov.za/sites/default/files/gazetted_notices/nemaqa_listofactivities_g33064_gon248.pdf).

### Minimum emission standards for combustion installations burning solid fuel\*

Pollutant	Emission limit value, mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
	new plant	existing plant
particulate matter	50	100
SO <sub>2</sub>	500	3500
NO <sub>x</sub> (as NO <sub>2</sub> )	750	1100

\* Emission limit values apply to all solid fuels (excluding biomass) combustion installations used primarily for steam raising or electricity generation with design capacity equal to or greater than 50 MW heat input per unit, based on the lower calorific value of the fuel used.

Note: Continuous emission monitoring of PM, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> is required. However, installations less than 100 MW heat input per unit must adhere to periodic emission monitoring.

**Minimum emission standards for carbonisation and coal gasification (combustion installations)\***

Pollutant	Emission limit value, mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
	new plant	existing plant
particulate matter	50	100
NO <sub>x</sub> (as NO <sub>2</sub> )	700	2000
total volatile organic compounds (from non-coke oven operations)	40	90

\* Emission limit values applicable to all combustion installations not used primarily for steam raising or electricity generation (except test or experimental installations).

Note: Sulphur-containing compounds to be recovered from gases to be used for combustion with a recovery efficiency of not less than 90% or remaining content of sulphur-containing compounds to be less than 1000 mg/m<sup>3</sup> measured as hydrogen sulphide, whichever is strictest.

General notes:

1. Existing Plant shall mean any plant or process that has been legally authorised to operate before 1 April 2010, or any plant where an application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act 1998 was made before 1 April 2010.
2. New Plant shall mean any plant or process where the application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act 1998, as amended, was made on or after 1 April 2010.
3. Unless where specified, minimum emission standards are expressed on a daily average basis, under normal conditions of 0°C, 101.3 kPa and dry flue gas basis with 10% of oxygen in the flue gas.

This paper reflects the IEA CCC understanding of the relevant legislation and is not a substitute for the official version. The IEA CCC does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this paper and accepts no responsibility for any consequences of their use.

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