

Chapter 84

2020 Regular Session

Subject Banning use of trichloroethylene

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Overview

Chapter 84 bans use of the chemical trichloroethylene beginning June 1, 2022, and requires that replacement chemicals must be less toxic to human health. The bill specifies circumstances under which the ban may be delayed or trichloroethylene use may be continued. \$250,000 in interest-free loans is made available to assist facilities to find replacement chemicals.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	[116.385] Trichloroethylene; ban.
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Subd. 1. Definitions.

Subd. 2. Use restriction. Prohibits a facility holding an air quality permit from using trichloroethylene (TCE) after June 1, 2022, except in two cases:

- a small business (500 employees or less) that needs additional time to identify a replacement chemical may receive a one-year extension, provided the facility complies with Minnesota Department of Health limits for TCE emissions during that time; or
- as provided in subdivision 4.

Subd. 3. Replacement chemicals. Requires chemicals replacing TCE to be less toxic to human health, as determined by the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency (PCA).

Subd. 4. Exceptions. Requires the PCA commissioner to grant exceptions to the ban for the following uses, provided the facility complies with Minnesota Department of Health limits for TCE emissions: (1) TCE used in a closed system allowing no emissions; (2) facilities holding TCE or a product containing TCE for distribution to a third party; and (3) a licensed hospital or academic medical facility.

Section **Description**

The PCA commissioner may grant exceptions to: (1) a facility using TCE solely for research and development purposes; or (2) a facility that processes TCE for waste disposal.

Subd. 5. Application of exceptions. An exception granted under subdivision 4 does not permit TCE to be used in amounts greater than those allowed under a stipulation agreement in effect on June 1, 2022.

Subd. 6. Short title. Titles this act the “White Bear Area Neighborhood Citizens’ Group Ban TCE Act.”

2 Availability of small business assistance environmental improvement loans to minimize trichloroethylene.

Makes \$250,000 available in interest-free loans to assist small businesses to reduce TCE use.



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