

NY'S REFRIGERANT REGULATION, PART 494



Office of
Climate Change

Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently asked questions regarding the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) rulemaking on hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) substances, 6 NYCRR Part 494

What are Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and why are they regulated?

HFCs are greenhouse gases thousands of times more powerful than carbon dioxide and used as substitutes for the ozone-depleting CFCs and HCFCs in refrigeration, air-conditioning, foam insulation, and other products. Today, HFCs make up 6% of all greenhouse gases in New York and are projected to increase 57% by 2050. The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act requires New York State to reduce HFCs and all other greenhouse gases 40% by 2030, and 85% by 2050.

What does Part 494 cover?

The current Part 494 regulation prohibits the sale, offer for sale, installation, entry into commerce in New York State, and use of certain substances in specific end uses, including refrigerators, supermarkets, chillers, foams, and as aerosol propellants. The rule adopted prohibitions that had been in effect at the national level as part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Significant New Alternatives Program (SNAP).

What will the updated Part 494 cover?

DEC is considering updating Part 494 regulation to expand the list of prohibited substances, include new types of equipment end-uses, and introduce new requirements to address refrigerant leakage and disposal.

Who will be affected by the updated Part 494?

The updated Part 494 may specifically affect manufacturers, retailers, servicers, operators or owners, and consumers of equipment in these end-uses:

- Retail Refrigeration – Including all equipment sizes from supermarket racks to reach-in and standalone cases
- Chillers – Including those used in ice rinks, industrial process refrigeration, and HVAC
- Other HVAC equipment – Including all types of air conditioners, heat pumps, and dehumidifiers

When will DEC provide a proposed rule for comment?

Please contact the DEC Office of Climate Change with comments or questions at any time. DEC has issued an informal Request for Feedback and is seeking responses before June 30, 2022. You can find information on the Request and Part 494 at: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/103870.html>

CONTACT INFORMATION

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