

New Mexico Smoke Management Program

COMBINED SMP I AND II STATEWIDE VENTILATION WAIVER FOR BROADCAST AND PILE BURNS.

The purpose of this waiver is to allow limited burning during times when ventilation is less than good under conditions that will minimize smoke impacts. This waiver for burning under fair or poor ventilation conditions is valid for all SMP I and SMP II burns registered in the State of New Mexico. Burners do not need to send a waiver request to use this waiver. This waiver may be rescinded or modified at any time by the Air Quality Bureau (AQB). The following conditions apply to this waiver.

Table 1: Conditions of This Waiver

Condition Category	Description of Condition				
Planning and preparation	 For burns planned under poor conditions, burner registration submitted to the AQB must indicate the prescribed wind directions under which the burn will be done. Burning shall be done only within the specified ranges of wind direction sent to the AQB in the burn registration. Notify local residents and visitors in advance of the planned burn. Copies or descriptions of all public notification documents used for the project shall be made available upon request for the AQB to inspect. 				
Tracking, monitoring, and reporting	 Summarize ventilation index, daily burn accomplishments, hourly visual monitoring (plume characteristics such as height, direction smoke goes, color and thickness) and complaints received using the Daily Waiver Form provided by AQB. The completed Daily Waiver Form shall be faxed or emailed to AQB by 10:00 am on the day following the day you burned under a waiver. Instrument monitoring may be required on a case-by-case basis. For days when burning under the waiver is cancelled, a cancellation notification shall be sent to the AQB as soon as possible after the cancellation decision has been made. 				
Burning specifics	 No burning (broadcast or pile) shall be done on Fridays, Saturdays, or Sundays if the ventilation is poor. Under poor conditions, if wind direction is toward residential areas, ignition shall be stopped as soon as it is safe to do so. For those pile burns less than five miles to a population, fire must be extinguished when crews leave the burn project site. For the purposes of this waiver, "extinguish" means the chunking and/or raking together of the pile as it burns to ensure a clean hot burn. The ventilation tables (Tables 2 and 3, below) describe ignition hours and maximum amount that is allowed to be burned with this waiver. For broadcast and pile burning, in order to reduce cumulative impacts of smoke, if the forecasted ventilation is less than 30,000 knot feet for 2 consecutive days, no burning shall be allowed. 				

	Ventilation Index (knot-feet)	Maximum Burn Area (acres/day)			Earliest	Ignition
Ventilation Categories		Grass	Forest and Shrub		start	shall stopped
			Maintenance	Restoration	time*	by*
FAIR	40,000 – 59,999	Unlimited	Consult with AQB if ≥750 acres/day	Consult with AQB if ≥500 acres/day	sunrise	sunset
POOR	30,000 - 39,999	500	200	100	9 AM	3 PM
POOR	25,000 - 29,999	400	150	75	10 AM	3 PM
POOR	20,000 - 24,999	300	100	50	11 AM	3 PM

Table 3: Ventilation Table for Pile Burns

Ventilation Categories	Ventilation Index (knot-feet)	Maximum Burn Volume (cubic feet/hour)	Earliest start time*	Ignition shall be stopped by*
FAIR	40,000 – 59,999	Unlimited	sunrise	sunset
POOR	30,000 – 39,999	50,000	one hour after sunrise	one hour before sunset
POOR	25,000 – 29,999	30,000	9 AM	3 PM
POOR	20,000 – 24,999	20,000	9 AM	2 PM

*Start and end times are based on generally better ventilation times during the day. If different start and end times are desired, the burner should apply for an individual waiver.