STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE

PLANTATIONS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL

MANAGEMENT

CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

AGENCY: Department of Environmental Management

DIVISION: Office of Air Resources

RULE IDENTIFIER: 250-RICR120-05-53

RULE TITLE: Part 53 "Prohibition of Hydrofluorocarbons in Specific End Uses"

REASON FOR RULEMAKING: The purpose of this rule is to reduce hydrofluorocarbon emissions by adopting specific prohibitions for certain substances in air conditioning and refrigeration equipment, aerosol propellants, and foam end-uses.

ANY FINDING REQUIRED BY LAW AS A PREREQUISITE TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RULE: not applicable

TESTIMONY AND COMMENTS: Comments were received from Air-Conditioning, Heating, & Refrigeration Institute (AHRI); American Chemistry Council's Center for Polyurethanes Industry (CPI); DuPont Performance Building Solutions; Honeywell; Household & Commercial Product Association (HCPA); Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) & Acadia Center; Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA); and SOPREMA. The comments and responses are summarized in the Decision.

CHANGE TO TEXT OF THE RULE:

Section 53.7(A)(2) sentence was added for clarity, products, equipment, or substances may be manufactured, sold, imported, exported, distributed, installed, and used after the specified date of prohibition to service existing equipment. Finally, products may be manufactured, sold, imported, exported, and distributed for use outside the state.

Amended the acceptable use of HFC-134a to read "cleaning products for removal of grease, flux, and other soils from electrical equipment or electronics."

The comments and responses are summarized in the Decision.

REGULATORY ANALYSIS: The proposed revisions are intended to provide clarity to the regulatory text. The proposed revisions do not impose any new requirements on regulated entities including any small businesses or any city or town; therefore, there is no new adverse economic impact.

DATE THE FINAL RULE WAS SIGNED BY THE AGENCY HEAD: