



[Bureau of Stationary Sources Home](#)

[AQES Home](#)

[DAQ Home](#)

[Air Permit Information Applications and Forms](#)

[General Permits](#)

[Online Permitting Help](#)

[Permitting Guidance](#)

[Enhanced Public Notification](#)

[Public Notices](#)

[RADIUS Information RADIUS](#)

[RADIUS FAQ](#)

[RADIUS Reference Tables Program Information](#)

[Annual Combustion Adjustment](#)

[Air Quality Forecast for Emergency Generators](#)

[Emission Statement Program](#)

[RGGI Implementation in Air Permitting](#)

[Risk Assessment Guide](#)

[State of the Art](#)

[Technical Manuals General Information](#)

[AQR Listserv](#)

[Contact BoSS](#)

[Contact Information](#)

[Industrial Stakeholders Group](#)

[Reports](#)

[Approved Operating Permits](#)

[Approved PCP Permits](#)

[Facility Reconciliation](#)

[Facility Outstanding Bills](#)

[Other Air Quality Reports](#)

[Permit Application Tracker](#)

How to Obtain the Air Quality Forecast in New Jersey

Purpose:

Identify the Air Quality Forecast to determine if Emergency Generator can or can not be used for normal testing/maintenance on a specific day.

IMPORTANT NOTE: EMERGENCY GENERATORS CAN BE USED WHENEVER NEEDED FOR TRUE EMERGENCIES, REGARDLESS OF THE AIR QUALITY. The procedures below apply only to normal testing and maintenance usage. They do not apply to emergency usage. In order for an event to be classified as an actual emergency (see definition of "emergency generator" at N.J.A.C. 7:27-19.1), there must be a voltage reduction issued by PJM and posted on the PJM internet website (www.pjm.com) under the "emergency procedures" menu.

Background:

Emergency Generators might not be allowed to operate for normal testing/maintenance on a certain day, depending on New Jersey's Air Quality for that day, in accordance with the Department's rules at N.J.A.C. 7:27-19.2(d).

New Jersey's Air Quality is based on the National Air Quality Index System, which looks at 5 major pollutant levels currently in the air, compares those pollutant levels to established health standards, and then gives the air a current rating (or grade), such as "good" or "unhealthy." The prohibition from testing/maintaining Emergency Generators on certain days is designed to:

- ensure that NJ's air quality does not get worse on those days with unhealthy air, and
- help protect the public health from the harmful effects of unhealthy air.

Procedure:

Check the air quality forecast the day before the tentative Emergency Generator normal testing/maintenance date using the following procedure:

- After 4:00 pm on the day before the emergency generator will be used for normal testing/maintenance, go to:

[Air Quality Conditions and Forecasts](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)

- Read the "Forecast" column for tomorrow's date.
- If this column lists the air quality anywhere in NJ as Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups, Unhealthy, Very Unhealthy, or Hazardous, then you CAN NOT do the testing/maintenance tomorrow.
- Reschedule your testing/maintenance for another day.
- Remember to re-check the Air Quality Forecast after 4:00 pm on the day before the day that the Emergency Generator has been rescheduled to be operated for normal testing/maintenance.

Summary:

Can perform routine testing & maintenance of Emergency Generator	Can't perform routine testing & maintenance of Emergency Generator
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- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Air Quality • Moderate Air Quality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups Air Quality • Unhealthy Air Quality • Very Unhealthy Air Quality • Hazardous Air Quality |
|--|--|

https://www.airnow.gov/state/?name=new-jersey

ENTER CITY OR ZIP CODE

New Jersey

Pick another state

[Go to Interactive Map](#)

OK TO TEST

Current Air Quality Historical Air Quality

Reporting Area	Current AQI	Today's Forecast Wednesday September 16	Tomorrow's Forecast Thursday September 17
Brigantine 12:00 PM EDT	24 OZONE Good	40 PM2.5 Good	40 PM2.5 Good
Camden 12:00 PM EDT	25 PM2.5 Good	40 PM2.5 Good	45 PM2.5 Good
Chester 12:00 PM EDT	23 OZONE Good	40 PM2.5 Good	40 PM2.5 Good