

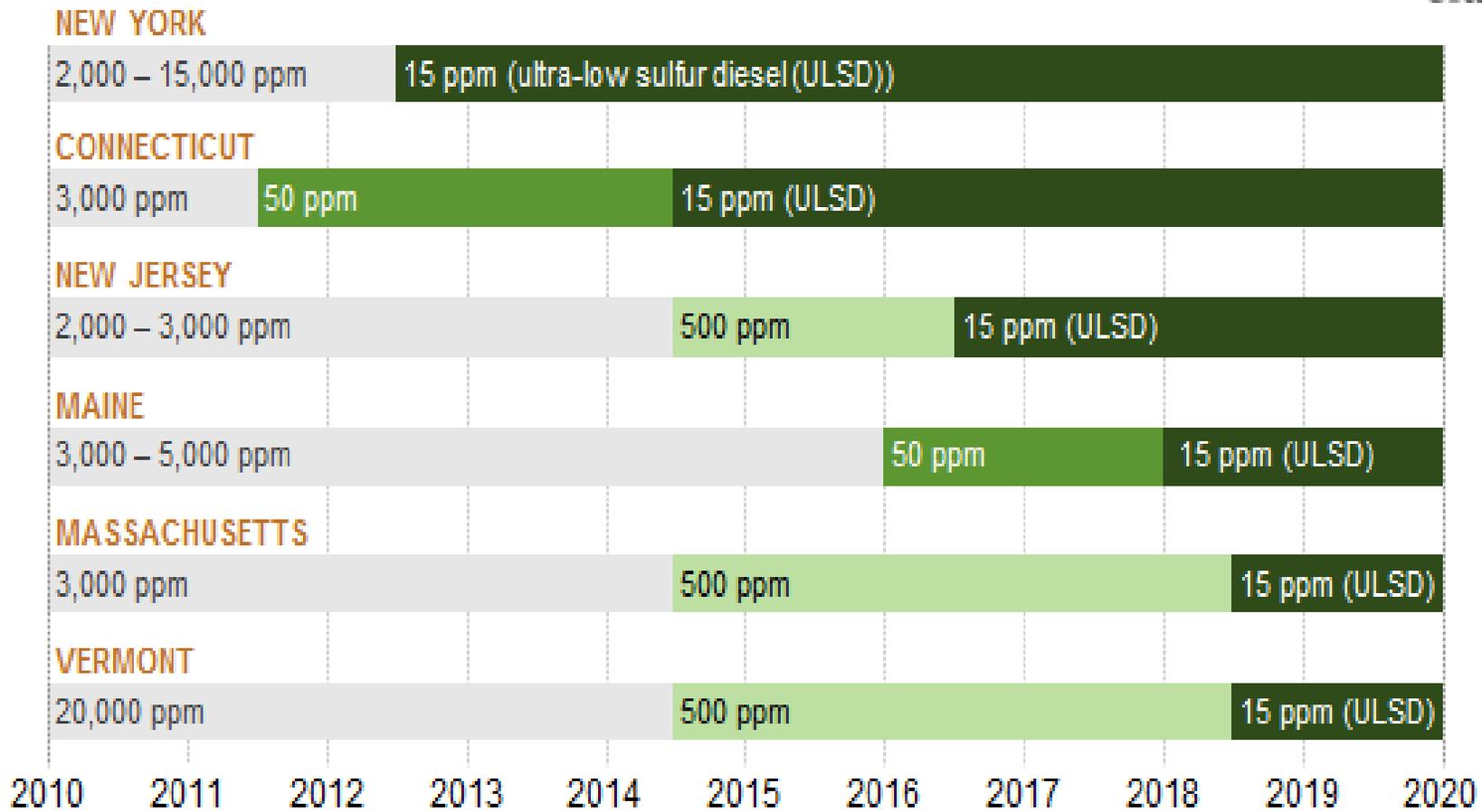
Philadelphia Code
Title 3 Section 3-207
Sale of Fuel Oil (§3-207)
Proposed Amendment

City of Philadelphia
Department of Public Health
Air Management Services
6/12/14

The proposed amendments to §3-207 reduces the Sulfur content in fuel oil. These changes echo action taken by the Commonwealth, and neighboring jurisdictions , to reduce sulfur emissions generated as a byproduct of the burning fuel oil.

The amendments would lower the Sulfur content of No. 2 Fuel Oil from 0.2% (2000 ppm) to 0.0015% (15 ppm) by weight and lower the Sulfur content of No.4 Fuel Oil from 0.3% (3000 ppm) to 0.25% (2500 ppm) by weight. The new standards would become effective on July 1, 2015.

New limits on maximum sulfur content of heating oil in the Northeast (2010-20)



Emission Benefits

AMS expects emission reductions of 369 – 831 tons for SO₂, 12 – 42 tons for PM_{2.5}, and 90 – 119 tons for NO_x on an annual basis if switching to 15 ppm sulfur Fuel Oil.

Health benefits

Switching to 15 ppm will save 11 lives annually in Philadelphia.

Estimated avoided adverse health costs (e.g. hospital admissions and medical treatments) are about \$18,000 per ton of sulfur removed.

Reduced incidence, and aggravation, of diseases such as asthma, bronchitis, and heart attacks.

Economic benefits

Reduced operational costs for fuel oil users, including homeowners who utilize fuel oil for heat, because Sulfur contamination fouls / reduces efficiency of boilers, heaters, and engines.

Concomitant reduction in expected hospital visits, missed work / school time as a result of lower incidences of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.