

Offensive Odor Control Act

- The “**Offensive Odor Control Act**” was enacted in 1971, with the purpose of preserving the living environment and contributing to the protection of public health by imposing necessary regulations on offensive odors generated by business activities at **factories and workplaces within regulated areas**.
- Based on this Act, prefectural governors or mayors of cities and special wards are to designate **regulated areas and standards**.
- The Ministry of the Environment is promoting **the introduction of odor index regulations** that can handle a range of substances, and complex odors in urban areas.
- There are 3,352 qualified **odor evaluators** nationwide (as of the end of the fiscal year of 2023).

▶ Subject to regulations

- **All factories and workplaces within the regulated area are subject to regulations**

▶ Regulated area

- Designated by the prefectural governor or mayor
- Areas where residential areas are clustered and it is found that odor prevention is necessary to preserve the living environment
- **1,317 municipalities (75.6%) (currently, as of the end of the fiscal year of 2023)**

▶ Regulation standards

- ▶ Designated by the prefectural governor or mayor within the scope specified by Order of the Ministry of the Environment
- ▶ One of the following methods will be selected by taking natural and social conditions into consideration:

1) Regulations based on the concentration of specified offensive odorous substances (currently 22 designated substances)

2) Select from a method of regulation based on the odor index (a standard based on the sense of smell)

▶ Specified offensive odorous substances

Ammonia, methyl mercaptan, and other substances that cause unpleasant odors and may cause damage to the living environment

▶ Odor index

The dilution factor is calculated based on the dilution factor needed when gas or water is diluted, until the odor is imperceptible to the human sense of smell



☆In April 2012, authority was transferred to all cities, allowing prefectures and all cities to designate regulated areas and standards.

- 規制地域内の工場・事業場**の事業活動に伴って発生する悪臭について必要な規制を行うこと等により生活環境を保全し、国民の健康の保護に資することを目的として、「**悪臭防止法**」を昭和46年に制定。
- 本法律に基づき、都道府県知事又は市及び特別区の長が**規制地域・規制基準**を指定。
- 環境省では、都市型の多様な物質や複合臭に対応できる**臭気指数規制の導入**を促進。
- 臭気判定士**の資格保有者は、全国で3,352名（R5年度末）。

▶ 規制対象

- ・**規制地域内のすべての工場・事業場が対象**

▶ 規制地域

- ・都道府県知事又は市長が指定
- ・生活環境を保全するため悪臭を防止する必要があると認める住居が集合している地域
- ・**1,317市区町村（75.6%）（令和5年度末現在）**

▶ 規制基準

- ▶ 環境省令で定める範囲内において都道府県知事又は市長が指定
- ▶ 自然的、社会的条件を考慮し、
 - ①**特定悪臭物質**の濃度による規制（現在22物質指定）
 - ②**臭気指数**（嗅覚を用いた測定法による基準）による規制のどちらかの方法を選択

▶ 特定悪臭物質

アンモニア、メチルメルカプタンその他の不快なにおいの原因となり、生活環境を損なうおそれのある物質

▶ 臭気指数

人間の嗅覚でその臭気を感じることができなくなるまで気体または水の希釈をした場合におけるその希釈の倍数を基礎として算定される

☆平成24年4月に全ての市へ権限が移譲され、都道府県と全ての市で規制地域・基準の指定を行えるようになった。