



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R06-OAR-2021-0604; FRL-10023-14-Region 6]

Air Plan Approval; Louisiana; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Requirements for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Clean Air Act (CAA or the Act), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is approving the State Implementation Plan (SIP) submittal from Louisiana submitted on November 4, 2020 for the 2015 ozone, as well as the 2006 PM_{2.5}, 2008 ozone, 2010 nitrogen dioxide, 2010 sulfur dioxide and the 2012 PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards. This submittal addresses how the existing SIP contains adequate provisions prohibiting emissions which interfere with required measures in any other State to protect visibility with respect to the 2015 ozone NAAQS as well as the 2006 PM_{2.5}, 2008 ozone, 2010 nitrogen dioxide, 2010 sulfur dioxide and the 2012 PM_{2.5} NAAQS.

DATES: This rule is effective on **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**.

ADDRESSES: The EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID No. EPA-R06-OAR-2020-0604. All documents in the docket are listed on the <https://www.regulations.gov> website. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., Confidential Business Information or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the Internet. Publicly available docket materials are available electronically through <https://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Huser, EPA Region 6 Office, Air and Radiation Division - State Planning and Implementation Branch, 214-665-7347,

huser.jennifer@epa.gov. Out of an abundance of caution for members of the public and our staff, the EPA Region 6 office will be closed to the public to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19. Please call or e-mail the contact listed above if you need alternative access to material indexed but not provided in the docket.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Throughout this document “we,” “us,” and “our” means the EPA.

I. Background

The background for this action is discussed in detail in our February 22, 2021 proposal (86 FR 10509). In that document we proposed to approve the State Implementation Plan (SIP) submittal from Louisiana submitted on November 4, 2020 for the 2015 ozone (O₃), 2006 PM_{2.5}, 2008 ozone, 2010 nitrogen dioxide, 2010 sulfur dioxide and the 2012 PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). This submittal addresses Prong 4 of the CAA (also referred to as visibility transport) that requires states to demonstrate that their SIP contains adequate measures that prohibit emissions from any source within a state from interfering with the visibility protection measures of other states. The submittal addresses how the existing SIP contains adequate provisions to meet the requirements with respect to the 2015 ozone NAAQS as well as the 2006 PM_{2.5}, 2008 ozone, 2010 nitrogen dioxide, 2010 sulfur dioxide and the 2012 PM_{2.5} NAAQS, as Louisiana now has a fully approved Regional Haze SIP. We did not receive any comments regarding our proposal.

II. Final Action

We are approving the SIP revision submitted on November 4, 2020 which addresses the Prong 4 requirements for the following NAAQS: 2015 Ozone, 2006 PM_{2.5}, 2008 Ozone, 2010 Nitrogen dioxide, 2010 Sulfur Dioxide, and the 2012 PM_{2.5}. This action is being taken under section 110 of the Act.

III. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under the CAA, the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the Act and applicable Federal regulations. 42 U.S.C. 7410(k); 40 CFR 52.02(a). Thus, in reviewing SIP submissions, the EPA's role is to approve state choices, provided that they meet the criteria of the CAA. Accordingly, this action merely approves state law as meeting Federal requirements and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. For that reason, this action:

- Is not a "significant regulatory action" subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Orders 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993) and 13563 (76 FR 3821, January 21, 2011);
- Does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*);
- Is certified as not having a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*);
- Does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-4);
- Does not have federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);
- Is not an economically significant regulatory action based on health or safety risks subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997);
- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001);
- Is not subject to requirements of section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the CAA; and

- Does not provide EPA with the discretionary authority to address, as appropriate, disproportionate human health or environmental effects, using practicable and legally permissible methods, under Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

In addition, the SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where EPA or an Indian tribe has demonstrated that a tribe has jurisdiction. In those areas of Indian country, the rule does not have tribal implications and will not impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000).

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. EPA will submit a report containing this action and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the *Federal Register*. A major rule cannot take effect until 60 days after it is published in the *Federal Register*. This action is not a “major rule” as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

Under section 307(b)(1) of the Clean Air Act, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**. Filing a petition for reconsideration by the Administrator of this final rule does not affect the finality of this action for the purposes of judicial review nor does it extend the time within which a petition for judicial review may be filed, and shall not postpone the effectiveness of such rule or action. This action may not be challenged later in proceedings to enforce its requirements. (See section 307(b)(2).)

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Incorporation by reference,
Intergovernmental relations, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Particulate matter, Visibility transport.

Dated: April 30, 2021.

David Gray,
Acting Regional Administrator, Region 6.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Environmental Protection Agency amends 40 CFR part 52 as follows:

PART 52—APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

1. The authority citation for part 52 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Subpart T – Louisiana

2. Amend §52.970(e) by adding the entry “Visibility Transport SIP for the 2015 ozone, 2012 PM_{2.5}, 2010 NO₂, 2010 SO₂, 2008 ozone and 2006 PM_{2.5} NAAQS” at the end of the second table titled “EPA Approved Louisiana Nonregulatory Provisions and Quasi-Regulatory Measures” to read as follows:

§52.970 Identification of plan.

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(e) * * *

EPA APPROVED LOUISIANA NONREGULATORY PROVISIONS AND QUASI-REGULATORY MEASURES

Name of SIP provision	Applicable geographic or nonattainment area	State submittal date/effective date	EPA approval date	Explanation
* * * * *				

Visibility Transport SIP for the 2015 ozone, 2012 PM _{2.5} , 2010 NO ₂ , 2010 SO ₂ , 2008 ozone and 2006 PM _{2.5} NAAQS	Statewide	11/4/2020	[Insert date of publication in the Federal Register], [Insert Federal Register citation]	Adequate provisions prohibiting emissions which interfere with visibility protection measures in any other State with respect to the 2015 ozone, 2012 PM _{2.5} , 2010 NO ₂ , 2010 SO ₂ , 2008 ozone and 2006 PM _{2.5} NAAQS.
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§52.996 [Amended]

3. Remove and reserve §52.996(b).