



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R10-OAR-2025-3357; FRL-13106-01-R10]

Air Plan Approval; AK; Updates to Materials Incorporated by Reference

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule; administrative change.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is updating the materials that are incorporated by reference (IBR) into the Alaska State Implementation Plan (SIP). The regulations affected by this update have been previously submitted by the State of Alaska and approved by the EPA. This update affects the materials that are available for public inspection at the EPA Regional Office and the National Archives and Records Administration.

DATES: This action is effective **[INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: The SIP materials for which incorporation by reference into 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 52 is finalized through this action are available for inspection at the following locations: Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155, Seattle, WA 98101; and Regulations.gov. To view the materials at the Region 10 Office, the EPA requests that you email the contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section to schedule your inspection. The Regional Office's official hours of business are Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristin Hall, EPA Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue – Suite 155, Seattle, WA 98101, at (206) 553-6357, or hall.kristin@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Each State has a SIP containing the control measures and strategies used to attain and maintain the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). The SIP is extensive, containing such elements as air pollution control regulations, emission inventories, monitoring networks, attainment demonstrations, and enforcement mechanisms.

Each State must formally adopt the control measures and strategies in the SIP after the public has had an opportunity to comment on them and then submit the proposed SIP revisions to the EPA. Once these control measures and strategies are approved by the EPA, and after notice and comment, they are incorporated into the federally approved SIP and are identified in part 52, “Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans,” of title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR part 52). The full text of the State regulation approved by the EPA is not reproduced in its entirety in 40 CFR part 52 but is “incorporated by reference.” This means that the EPA has approved a given State provision or specified changes to the given provision with a specific effective date. The public is referred to the location of the full text version should they want to know which measures are contained in a given SIP. The information provided allows the EPA and the public to monitor the extent to which a State implements a SIP to attain and maintain the NAAQS and to take enforcement action for violations of the SIP.

The SIP is a living document which the State can revise as necessary to address the unique air pollution problems in the State. Therefore, the EPA from time to time must take action on proposed revisions containing new or revised State regulations. A submission from a State can revise one or more rules in their entirety, or portions of rules. The State indicates the changes in the submission (such as by using redline/strikethrough text) and the EPA then takes action on the requested changes. The EPA establishes a docket for its actions using a unique Docket Identification Number, which is listed in each action. These dockets and the complete submission are available for viewing on *www.regulations.gov*.

On May 22, 1997 (62 FR 27968), the EPA revised the procedures for incorporating by reference, into the CFR, materials approved by the EPA into each SIP. These changes revised the format for the identification of the SIP in 40 CFR part 52, streamlined the mechanisms for announcing the EPA approval of revisions to a SIP, and streamlined the mechanisms for the EPA's updating of the IBR information contained for each SIP in 40 CFR part 52. The revised procedures also called for the EPA to maintain "SIP Compilations" that contain the federally approved regulations and source-specific permits submitted by each State agency.

The EPA generally updates these SIP Compilations every few years. Under the revised procedures, the EPA must periodically publish an informational document in the rules section of the *Federal Register* notifying the public that updates have been made to a SIP Compilation for a particular State. The EPA began applying the 1997 revised procedures to the Alaska SIP on April 10, 2014 (79 FR 19820). The EPA subsequently published updates to the IBR materials for Alaska on December 8, 2017 (82 FR 57836), December 12, 2022 (87 FR 75932), and January 17, 2025 (90 FR 5678).

A. Approved and Incorporated by Reference Regulatory Materials

Since the last IBR update, the EPA approved and incorporated by reference regulatory materials into the Alaska SIP at 40 CFR 52.70 in an action on November 18, 2025 (90 FR 51529):

1. 40 CFR 52.70(c) *EPA approved laws and regulations.*
 - a. 18 AAC 50.055 (industrial processes and fuel-burning equipment requirements), except (d)(2)(B), State effective December 8, 2024.
 - b. 18 AAC 50.076 (solid fuel-fired heating device fuel requirements; registration of commercial wood sellers), except (g)(11), State effective December 8, 2024.
 - c. 18 AAC 50.077 (standards for wood fired heating devices), except (g), State effective December 8, 2024.

d. 18 AAC 50.078 (additional control measures for a serious PM_{2.5} nonattainment area), except (c), State effective December 8, 2024.

e. 18 AAC 50.079 (provisions for coal-fired heating devices), State effective December 8, 2024.

2. 40 CFR 52.70(d) *EPA approved state source-specific requirements.*

a. Minor Permit AQ1121MSS04 Rev. 1, Title Page, Table of Contents, List of Abbreviations and Acronyms, Section 1, Section 3, Section 4, and Section 6, only, (Doyon Utilities, LLC—Fort Wainwright (Privatized Emission Units)), State effective October 31, 2024.

b. Minor Permit AQ0236MSS03 Rev. 2, Title Page, Table of Contents, List of Abbreviations and Acronyms, Section 1, Section 3, Section 4, and Section 6, only (U.S. Army Garrison Fort Wainwright), State effective October 28, 2024.

c. Minor Permit AQ0110MSS01 Rev. 1, Title Page, Table of Contents, List of Abbreviations and Acronyms, Section 1, Section 3, Section 4, and Section 6, only, (Golden Valley Electric Association, North Pole Power Plant), State effective October 30, 2024.

d. Minor Permit AQ0109MSS01 Rev. 2, Title Page, Table of Contents, List of Abbreviations and Acronyms, Section 1, Section 3, Section 4, and Section 6, only, (Golden Valley Electric Association, Zehnder Facility), State effective October 28, 2024.

e. Minor Permit AQ0315MSS02 Revision 1, Title Page, Table of Contents, List of Abbreviations and Acronyms, Section 1, Section 3, Section 4, and Section 6, only, (Aurora Energy LLC, Chena Power Plant), State effective October 28, 2024.

f. Minor Permit AQ0316MSS08 Revision 1, Title Page, Table of Contents, List of Abbreviations and Acronyms, Section 1, Section 3, Section 4, and Section 6, only, (University of Alaska Fairbanks, University of Alaska Fairbanks Campus), State

effective October 31, 2024.

II. EPA Action

In this action, the EPA is providing notification of an update to the materials incorporated by reference into the Alaska SIP as of November 21, 2025, and identified in 40 CFR 52.70(c) and 40 CFR 52.70(d). This update includes SIP materials submitted by Alaska and approved by the EPA since the last IBR update. *See* 90 FR 5678 (January 17, 2025).

III. Good Cause Exemption

The EPA has determined that this action falls under the “good cause” exemption in section 553(b)(3)(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) which, upon finding “good cause,” authorizes agencies to dispense with public participation and section 553(d)(3) which allows an agency to make an action effective immediately (thereby avoiding the 30-day delayed effective date otherwise provided for in the APA). This administrative action simply codifies provisions which are already in effect as a matter of law in Federal and approved State programs, makes corrections and clarifying changes to the tables in the CFR, and makes ministerial changes to the prefatory heading to the tables in the CFR. Under section 553 of the APA, an agency may find good cause where procedures are “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” Public comment for this administrative action is “unnecessary” and “contrary to the public interest” since the codification (and corrections) only reflect existing law. Immediate notice of this action in the *Federal Register* benefits the public by providing the public notification of the updated Alaska SIP Compilation and notification of corrections to the Alaska “Identification of Plan” portion of the CFR. Further, pursuant to section 553(d)(3), making this action immediately effective benefits the public by immediately updating both the SIP Compilation and the CFR “Identification of plan” section (which includes table entry corrections).

IV. Incorporation by Reference

In this document, the EPA is finalizing regulatory text that includes incorporation by reference. In accordance with requirements of 1 CFR 51.5, the EPA is finalizing the incorporation by reference of regulatory provisions promulgated by Alaska, previously approved by the EPA and federally effective before November 21, 2025, contained in 40 CFR 52.70(c), *EPA approved laws and regulations*, and 40 CFR 52.70(d), *EPA approved state source-specific requirements*, described in section II. of this preamble. The EPA has made, and will continue to make, these materials generally available through Regulations.gov and at the EPA Region 10 Office (please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this preamble for more information).

V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under the Clean Air Act (CAA), the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the CAA 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 Order 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993);
- Is not subject to Executive Order 14192 (90 FR 9065, February 6, 2025) because SIP actions are exempt from review under Executive Order 12866;
- 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 (Pub. L. 104-4);
- Does not have federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);
- Is not subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997) because it approves a State program;
- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001); and
- 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.

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).

This action is subject to the Congressional Review Act, and the EPA will submit a rule report to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. This action is not a “major rule” as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

The EPA also believes that the provisions of section 307(b)(1) of the CAA pertaining to petitions for judicial review are not applicable to this action. This is because prior EPA rulemaking actions for each individual component of the Alaska SIP Compilation previously afforded interested parties the opportunity to file a petition for judicial review in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit within 60 days of such rulemaking action. Thus, the EPA believes judicial review of this action under section

307(b)(1) is not available.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Carbon monoxide, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Lead, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Particulate matter, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulfur oxides, Volatile organic compounds.

Dated: January 23, 2026.

Emma Pokon,
Regional Administrator, Region 10.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 40 CFR part 52 is amended 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 C—Alaska

2. Amend § 52.70 by revising paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 52.70 Identification of plan.

* * * * *

(b) *Incorporation by reference.* (1) Material listed in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section with an EPA approval date prior to November 21, 2025, was approved for incorporation by reference by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Material is incorporated as it exists on the date of the approval and notification of any change in the material will be published in the *Federal Register*. Entries in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section with EPA approval dates after November 21, 2025, will be incorporated by reference in the next update to the SIP compilation.

(2) EPA Region 10 certifies that the rules/regulations provided by the EPA in the SIP compilation at the addresses in paragraph (b)(3) of this section are an exact duplicate of the officially promulgated State rules/regulations which have been approved as part of the State Implementation Plan as of the dates referenced in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(3) Copies of the materials incorporated by reference may be inspected at the Region 10 EPA Office at 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155, Seattle, WA 98101. To obtain the material, please call (206) 553–6357. You may inspect the material with an EPA approval date prior to November 21, 2025, for Alaska at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA email fedreg.legal@nara.gov or go to <https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations>.

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