



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY & RADIATION PROTECTION
AIR PERMITTING PLANNING & RELEASE PREVENTION

401 East State Street 2nd floor
P.O. Box 420, Mail Code 401-02
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420
Tel. (609) 292-2084 • Fax (609) 292-1028
<https://dep.nj.gov/airquality>

SHAWN M. LATOURETTE
Commissioner

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

June 6, 2024

Via Email

Richard Ruvo, Director
Air and Radiation Division
United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) - Region 2
290 Broadway – 25th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866
Ruvo.Richard@epa.gov

Re: Proposed New Jersey SIP Revision:
2015 70 ppb 8-Hour Ozone Attainment Demonstration, Moderate Classification,
Northern New Jersey-New York-Connecticut Nonattainment Area and
Southern New Jersey-Pennsylvania-Delaware-Maryland Nonattainment Area

Dear Mr. Ruvo,

Enclosed for your review is New Jersey's proposed State Implementation Plan (SIP) Revision for meeting the requirements related to the 2015 70 ppb Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The primary purpose of this SIP is to address the Clean Air Act (CAA) attainment demonstration requirements for New Jersey's multi-state Northern New Jersey-New York-Connecticut (Northern NJ-NY-CT) and Southern New Jersey-Pennsylvania-Delaware-Maryland (Southern NJ-PA-DE-MD) Nonattainment Areas for the moderate classifications for the 2015 70 ppb 8-hour ozone NAAQS.

This proposed SIP revision includes for the 2015 70 ppb Ozone NAAQS, Moderate Classification Northern NJ-PA-DE-MD Nonattainment Area:

- An Attainment Demonstration and Associated Components;
- Updated Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Performance Standard Modeling and Program Certification;
- Reference to the previously submitted Statewide Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Analyses and Certification;
- Reference to the previously submitted Statewide Nonattainment New Source Review (NNSR) Program Compliance Certification;
- An Emission Statement Program Compliance Certification; and
- A Clean Fuel for Fleets Compliance Certification.

This proposed SIP revision also includes for the 2015 70 ppb Ozone NAAQS, Moderate Classification Southern NJ-PA-DE-MD Nonattainment Area:

- An Attainment Demonstration and Associated Components;
- Updated Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Performance Standard Modeling and Program Certification;
- A Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Certification
- An NNSR Program Compliance Certification
- An Emission Statement Program Compliance Certification
- A Clean Fuel for Fleets Compliance Certification

Adopted Rules

This proposed SIP also includes for inclusion in New Jersey's SIP the New Jersey rules adopted on December 2, 2022, at 7:27F-2 that set new Electric Generating Unit (EGU) emission limits starting June 1, 2024, and New Jersey rules adopted on December 2, 2022, at 7:27F-3 that ban #4 and #6 fuel oil, with a compliance date in 2025.

All New Jersey monitors showed compliance with the 2015 70 ppb Ozone NAAQS based on 2022 design values, and all but one based on 2023 design values, which was influenced by extreme wildfires in Canada and the Midwest.

Northern NJ-NY-CT Nonattainment Area

The controlling monitors above the standard are in Connecticut along the downwind side of the Long Island Sound and are significantly affected by emissions from the New York metropolitan area, a bay breeze effect and the I-95 corridor. Although attainment of the Northern New Jersey multi-state nonattainment area has not been demonstrated, New Jersey has satisfied its contributions toward attainment of the 2015 70 ppb ozone NAAQS and has met its obligations for the achievement of Reasonable Further Progress (RFP). New Jersey recognizes that New York has adopted rules that will reduce emissions from electric generation upwind of the Connecticut monitors, but they have compliance dates that will be effective after the attainment date of August 3, 2024.

Reclassification Request for Northern NJ-NY-CT Nonattainment Area

As discussed in New Jersey's letter to USEPA dated May 23, 2024, based on monitoring data and modeling data, New Jersey requests a voluntary reclassification for the Northern NJ-NY-CT Nonattainment Area from Moderate to Severe, with a new attainment date of August 3, 2033. If the other states in New Jersey's Northern NJ-NY-CT Nonattainment Area do not concur with a voluntary reclassification to Severe, New Jersey requests a voluntary reclassification from Moderate to Serious with a new attainment date of August 3, 2027.

Southern NJ-PA-DE-MD Nonattainment Area

Although 2023 data is preliminary, the Southern NJ-PA-DE-MD Nonattainment Area did not attain the 2015 70 ppb 8-hour ozone NAAQS by the 2023 compliance ozone season. The area experienced significant ozone air quality impacts due to smoke from wildfires in 2023, therefore, the data is not representative of ambient conditions. The states in the nonattainment area are submitting requests to exclude the exceptional events data from 2023. With approval of these exclusions, and a one-year extension of the attainment date to August 3, 2025, as allowed under the Clean Air Act, data shows that the area will attain by this date.

The public notice for this proposed SIP is also attached. I appreciate the assistance your staff has and will provide in reviewing this proposed SIP revision. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Sharon Davis of my staff by email at sharon.davis@dep.nj.gov.

Sincerely,

Francis C. Steitz,
Director,
Division of Air Quality and
Radiation Protection

Enclosures:
SIP Proposal
Public Notice

c (email letter only):

Rick Ruvo, Director, Air and Radiation Division, USEPA Region 2
Kirk Wieber, Chief, Air Programs Branch, USEPA Region 2
Ken Fradkin, Supervisor, Air Planning, USEPA Region 2
Paul Baldauf, Assistant Commissioner, NJDEP
Peg Hanna, Director, Division of Climate Change Mitigation and Monitoring, NJDEP
Kristina Miles, NJ Deputy Attorney General