

U.S. EPA FACT SHEET

Yuba City-Marysville Area Redesignation to Attainment for the 2006 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standard

November 20, 2014

Summary

- EPA is redesignating the Yuba City-Marysville area of California to attainment for the 2006 fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) 24-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS).
- EPA is approving the California Air Resources Board's redesignation request, maintenance plan, emissions inventory and motor vehicles budgets.
- Today's actions represent a significant milestone in air quality improvements through the combined efforts of the Feather River Air Quality Management District, the California Air Resources Board, and EPA.

Background

- In January 2013, EPA issued a determination that the Yuba City-Marysville nonattainment area attained the 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard based on complete, quality-assured, and certified ambient air monitoring data for the 2009–2011 monitoring period.

Particulate Matter and Public Health

- Particulate matter are commonly referred to as PM_{2.5} because they have a diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less.
- Reducing PM_{2.5} levels is essential because these tiny particles can reach the deepest regions of the lungs and exposure is linked to a variety of significant health problems including damage to lung tissue, cancer and premature death.
- PM_{2.5} can be emitted directly into the atmosphere or formed in the atmosphere as a result of various chemical reactions from emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulfur dioxide, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and ammonia.

Next Steps

- Today's actions will be published in the Federal Register in approximately two weeks and become effective 30 days after publication.

For More Information:

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/actions/calwide/index.html>