

U.S. EPA Fact Sheet

Approval of California Regional Haze Progress Report

February 27, 2015

Summary of Action:

EPA is approving the California Air Resources Board's determination that the existing California Regional Haze (RH) State Implementation Plan (SIP) is making adequate progress toward achieving its visibility goals for 2018 in the State's federally protected areas. California has 29 such federally protected national parks and wilderness areas, known as Class I areas.

Background:

The Clean Air Act establishes as a national goal the prevention of any future and the remedying of any existing man-made impairment of visibility in the nation's 156 Class I areas. Regional haze is visibility impairment, produced by sources and activities that emit fine particles and reduce visibility.

EPA approved the California RH SIP on June 14, 2011.

States are required to submit Progress Reports every five years evaluating progress toward achieving visibility goals, known as Reasonable Progress Goals.

The California Air Resources Board submitted a Progress Report to EPA on June 16, 2014. On September 29, 2014, EPA proposed to approve California's determination that the existing RH SIP was adequate to meet the visibility goals.

Today's final approval means that no substantive revisions to the RH SIP are required at this time.

Next Steps:

The Federal Register notice will be published in approximately 2 – 3 weeks.

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