

## U.S. EPA FACT SHEET

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### Proposed Approval of the Owens Valley 2016 Plan for Attaining the 1987 24-Hour Coarse Particle Standard

December 1, 2016

#### Summary

- EPA is proposing to approve the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District's 2016 Plan to attain the 1987 coarse particle (PM<sub>10</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (PM<sub>10</sub> NAAQS) in the Owens Valley.

#### Background

- The NAAQS are standards for certain ambient air pollutants set by the EPA to protect public health and welfare. PM<sub>10</sub> is among the ambient air pollutants for which the EPA has established health-based standards.
- By penetrating deep in the lungs, PM<sub>10</sub> causes adverse health effects, including lung damage, increased respiratory disease, and premature death. Children, the elderly, and people with asthma and heart conditions are the most vulnerable.

#### Next Steps

- Today's proposed action will be published in the Federal Register in approximately two weeks and will provide a 30-day period for public comment.
- After the close of the comment period, EPA will evaluate and respond to any comments in a subsequent rulemaking action.

For More Information, please visit <https://www3.epa.gov/region9/air/owens/pmplan.html>