

U.S. EPA FACT SHEET

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

January 13, 2017

Summary

- EPA has approved the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District's 2016 Plan to attain the 1987 coarse particle (PM₁₀) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (PM₁₀ 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. PM₁₀ is among the ambient air pollutants for which the EPA has established health-based standards.
- By penetrating deep in the lungs, PM₁₀ 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.
- EPA's proposed approval of the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District's 2016 Plan was published in the *Federal Register* on December 12, 2016. A 30-day comment period was provided.

Next Steps

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

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