South Coast PM$_{10}$ Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan Final Approval
June 12, 2013

Summary

- EPA is approving the particulate matter (PM$_{10}$) redesignation request and maintenance plan for the South Coast areas in California. This plan, known as a State Implementation Plan (SIP), is the roadmap to maintaining the 1987 PM$_{10}$ National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) set by the U.S. EPA to protect public health, for the next ten years. The area has not violated the 24-hour PM$_{10}$ standard since 2008.

- California is a national leader in air pollution controls that protect public health by improving air quality. The control measures needed to demonstrate maintenance of the PM$_{10}$ standards for the next ten years have already been adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

- This action will be published in the Federal Register and will be effective 30 days from the date of publication. EPA’s Federal Register notice and technical support document contain detailed information on our action.

Background

- In July 1987, EPA promulgated a 24-hour standard of 150 micrograms per cubic meter NAAQS for PM$_{10}$. On the date of enactment of the 1990 CAA Amendments, PM$_{10}$ areas including the South Coast were designated nonattainment by operation of law.

- In 2003 and 2005, we approved PM$_{10}$ attainment plans for the South Coast PM$_{10}$ nonattainment area.

- Primary sources of PM$_{10}$ and its precursors are dust from paved and unpaved roads, construction and demolition, and on- and off-road mobile sources.

- The State submitted the SCAQMD’s PM$_{10}$ redesignation request and maintenance plan to EPA on April 28, 2010. We proposed our action on May 8, 2013, and EPA provided a 30-day public comment period on its proposed action.

For More Information:  http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/actions/ca.html