

U.S. EPA FACT SHEET

EPA proposal to approve partially and disapprove partially Nevada's determination of Best Available Retrofit Technology to control NO_x emissions at Reid Gardner Generating Station, and propose Federal Implementation Plan provisions

April 2, 2012

Today's Action

- EPA is proposing action regarding the control of nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions at Units 1, 2 and 3 of the Reid Gardner Generating Station (RGGS). This notice includes:
 - Proposed approval of Nevada's Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) emissions limit of 0.20 lbs/MMBtu at Units 1 and 2
 - Proposed disapproval of Nevada's BART emissions limit of 0.28 lbs/MMBtu for Unit 3, and a compliance method based on a 12-month rolling average for Units 1-3
 - Proposed Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) to require a BART emission limit of 0.20 lbs/MMBtu for Unit 3, and a 30-day rolling average at Units 1 – 3 for compliance purposes
- The State has agreed to submit a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision by September 2012 to replace the FIP.

Background

EPA approved most of Nevada's Regional Haze Plan on December 13, 2011 as meeting the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

EPA did not act on the State's BART determination for NO_x at RGGS at that time.

Today's action addresses the remaining portion of the Nevada's SIP to implement the regional haze program and meets our consent decree deadline with NPCA.

Regional Haze is visibility impairment caused by fine particle pollution. This haze obscures the view of scenery and objects at a distance, reducing the beauty of our protected natural areas.

Congress set the goal of the "prevention of any future, and the remedying of any existing, impairment of visibility in mandatory Class I Federal areas which impairment results from manmade air pollution." These Class I areas include 156 national parks and national wilderness areas such as Jarbidge Wilderness Area.

Under EPA's Regional Haze Rule, the states are required to establish long-term strategies for making reasonable progress toward achieving natural visibility in Class 1 areas.

Next steps

EPA will accept comments for 30 days after publication of the Notice in the Federal Register. In addition, EPA will hold a public hearing near the facility in early May. EPA intends to respond to comments and take final action no later than July 13, 2012.

For more information, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/actions/nv.html>