

U.S. EPA FACT SHEET

Supplemental Proposal Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) for Navajo Generating Station, Navajo Nation

September 25, 2013

Summary of Action

In today's Supplemental Proposal, EPA is proposing an additional Alternative to BART submitted on July 26, 2013 by a group of stakeholders, known as the Technical Work Group (TWG). The TWG Alternative would establish a lifetime cap in NO_x emissions over 2009-2044 that would ensure cumulative NO_x emissions from NGS are below that level. EPA has independently evaluated the TWG Alternative and is proposing to determine that the TWG Alternative is "better than BART" because maintaining emissions below the 2009-2044 NO_x Cap achieves greater reasonable progress than BART towards the national visibility goal. EPA is currently taking comment on this alternative as well as the proposed BART and "better than BART" alternative contained in our February 2013 proposal.

Background On Today's Proposal

- EPA is proposing to reduce harmful nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions from the Navajo Generating Station (NGS), one of the largest sources of NO_x emissions in the country. These pollutants contribute to visibility impairment in 11 national parks and wilderness areas surrounding NGS, including the Grand Canyon which is less than 20 miles away from the plant. See map.
- On February 5, 2013, EPA proposed a Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) determination for NGS, an Alternative to BART, and a framework for evaluating Alternatives to BART that provide greater flexibility in the timeframe for compliance in exchange for greater emission reductions. EPA invited stakeholders to suggest additional Alternatives to BART that meet our proposed framework. The July 26, 2013 TWG Alternative was submitted to meet this framework.
- The TWG is composed of Salt River Project, the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Navajo Nation, the Gila River Indian Community, Environmental Defense Fund, Western Resources Advocates, and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District.
- EPA is accepting comment concurrently on today's Supplemental Proposal and our proposal from February 5, 2013. The public comment period will close on January 6, 2014.

- **Emissions Reductions:**

Over the lifetime of the facility (2009-2044) the TWG Alternative will result in greater NO_x emission reductions than our proposed BART determination. EPA's proposed BART determination would reduce emissions by over 84 percent, or a total of 28,500 tons per year.

- **Visibility Improvements:**

These emission reductions will result in perceptible visibility improvement (greater than 1 deciview) at all eleven Class I areas impacted by NGS.

- **Timeframe and Credit for Prior Reductions:**

EPA is exercising our discretion under the Tribal Authority Rule (TAR) to allow additional time for NGS to reduce emissions and to give credit for prior reductions. Sources located on tribal land are not subject to the same legal deadlines as sources on state land. The credit for the prior NO_x reductions, achieved over 2009-2011, is a key component of EPA's proposed framework for Alternatives to BART.

General Background

- NGS is located on the Navajo Nation Indian Reservation near Page, Arizona and is one of the largest sources of NO_x in the country. NGS is a 2,250 MW coal-fired power plant.
- NO_x not only impairs visibility by increasing haze, but also emits pollutants that affect public health. EPA's proposed action gives NGS several options that will all substantially improve air quality and visibility.
- Under the Clean Air Act, Congress required that EPA improve visibility in 156 federal national parks and wilderness areas across the country. States are required to adopt Regional Haze plans that improve visibility over time. These plans include BART determinations, where older sources are evaluated for additional pollution controls. Most states have completed this process and many have required stationary sources under their jurisdiction to install new air pollution controls for BART. The Navajo Nation has not developed a Tribal Implementation Plan for BART. Therefore, EPA is developing a Federal Implementation Plan for Navajo Generating Station.
- NGS has already installed pollution control equipment to significantly reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and particulate matter in order to protect visibility and improve air quality. Now EPA is proposing that the facility take comparable action to reduce NO_x emissions, the last component of pollution that significantly affects regional haze.

- In 2011 alone, 4 million people visited the Grand Canyon. Visibility is important to healthy tourism and the economic vitality of the states, local and tribal communities in the West.
- NGS is co-owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (24.3%), Salt River Project (21.7%), Los Angeles DWP (21.2%), Arizona Public Service (14%), Nevada Power (11.3%) and Tucson Electric Power (7.5%).
- Los Angeles DWP and Nevada Power have stated their intentions to pull out of NGS. Together they own 32.5 % of the plant, or almost a third of the facility, or almost one unit of the 3-unit facility.

Next Steps

- EPA is extending the close of the public comment period to January 6, 2014.
- EPA will be holding five open house and public hearing events at locations throughout Arizona on November 12-15, 2013, as follows:

Date	Time	Location
November 12 Tuesday Morning	10AM – 1PM Concurrent Open House/Hearing	LeChee Chapter House, On Coppermine Road, 3 miles south of Page, in LeChee, Arizona
November 12 Tuesday Evening	Open House: 3PM – 5PM Public Hearing: 6PM – 9PM	Page High School Cultural Arts Building, 434 Lake Powell Blvd., Page, Arizona
November 13 Wednesday	Open House: 3PM – 5PM Public Hearing: 6PM – 9PM	Hopi Day School, Quarter-mile East Main Street, Kykotsmovi, Arizona
November 14 Thursday	Open House: 3PM – 5PM Public Hearing: 6PM – 10PM	Phoenix Convention Center, 100 North 3 rd Street, Phoenix, Arizona
November 15 Friday	Open House: 3PM – 5PM Public Hearing: 6PM – 9PM	Proscenium Theatre, Pima Community College West Campus, Center for the Arts Building, 2 miles west of I-10 on St. Mary's Road, Tucson, Arizona

For more information, see: <http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/navajo/>