

FACT SHEET

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING TO APPROVE RULES AND COMMITMENTS IN A PM-10 PLAN FOR THE SALT RIVER AREA, PHOENIX

- In this action, we are proposing to approve the rules and commitments contained in the “Revised PM-10 State Implementation Plan for the Salt River Area” submitted by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).
- The Phoenix area violates both the 24-hour and annual PM-10 standards. In July 2002, EPA approved a PM-10 plan for the Phoenix area and granted an extension of the attainment date to December 2006.
- The Salt River area is a 32-square mile area in metropolitan Phoenix that experiences some of the highest and most frequent exceedences of the 24-hour PM-10 standard. The rules and commitments EPA is proposing to approve are designed to address monitored exceedences occurring in the Salt River area. Because PM-10 monitors in the Salt River area are sited to represent air quality at other sites with similar emissions sources, the rules and commitments contained in the Salt River plan apply throughout the Phoenix PM-10 nonattainment area.
- The Phoenix area, including Salt River monitors, experienced several exceedences of the PM-10 24-hour standard in late 2005 and early 2006. These exceedences preclude the possibility for the area to achieve attainment in the 2004 to 2006 time frame. For this reason, we anticipate that the Phoenix area will be subject to a Clean Air Act requirement to reduce emissions by 5% per year until attainment is demonstrated. This requirement will be triggered by an EPA finding that the Phoenix area has not attained the standards once complete monitoring data for the 2004 to 2006 time period has been submitted to EPA.
- The rules and commitments contained in the Salt River plan are needed for the Phoenix area to ultimately attain the PM-10 standards. Therefore, our proposal to approve these measures will ensure continued progress towards attainment.