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Category: 59 — Designations

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

DATE: January 3, 1978

SUBJECT: Attainment/Nonattainment Status Designations

FROM: David G. Hawkins, Assistant Administrator
for Air and Waste Management

MEMO TO: Regional Administrators, Regions I - X

The purpose of this memo is to provide additional guidance on the attainment/nonattainment area designations relative to Section 107 of the Clean Air Act (CAA).

Urban Areas in Excess of 200,000 - Oxidants

Priority should be given to those 105 urban areas with populations greater than 200,000. These areas are to be considered nonattainment for oxidants unless monitored data supports attainment. In the enclosed list of 105 urban areas greater than 200,000, only 6 do not have oxidant air quality data. These six cities must be classified as nonattainment and be required to monitor during the 1978 oxidant season to determine the magnitude of their presumed oxidant problem. Please refer to the enclosed summary, "Relationship of Air Quality in Cities Greater Than 200,000 Population With Oxidant Data Compared With Cities Without Ambient Data." Once ambient data is collected, measures necessary to attain the national ambient air quality standard for oxidant can be determined. If a State fails to designate any of these areas or submit unacceptable designations, the Regional Office should make the required designations. The Regional Office should require that the designated area be of sufficient size to include most of the significant hydrocarbon sources. The areas designated by States should be relied on where they appear reasonable. In the event that no area is designated or the area does not include most hydrocarbon emissions, the "Effectiveness of Organic Emissions Control Programs as a Function of Geographic Location" issued in April, 1977, may be used as guidance.

Other Areas - Oxidants

Some areas may have a very high emission density without an associated high population density. In such cases, where air quality is not available, the State should be required to monitor during the 1978 oxidant season in accordance with the guidance contained in my memo (Model Letter Regarding State Designation of Attainment States) of October 7, 1977. OAQPS has identified a number of such areas to your staff. Any area with monitored violations must be designated as nonattainment. In non-urban areas this

designation will result in application of the offset policy, as well as revised State implementation plans (SIPs) which require the lowest achievable emission rate on new major sources and reasonably available control technology on large existing sources. The Regional Offices should generally defer to the State regarding site of the area designated. Normally, the county should be designated as minimum, unless the county is exceptionally large and the extent of the violations is minimal.

Significant resources should not be devoted by EPA to designation activities for areas less than 200,000 in population. Areas designated as attainment or unclassified will be controlled by prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) review. Best available control technology will be required on new major sources, and these sources will be required under the PSD program to monitor for all criteria pollutants, which they may emit, prior to granting a construction permit. In the event that such monitoring identifies an ambient air quality standard violation, the offset policy will apply.

States should be urged to achieve as much hydrocarbon reduction as possible, but the above priority in urban areas is established in recognition of the severe resource limitations of most States in combination with the extensive demands we are placing on the States as a result of the CAA Amendments of 1977.

Designation of Areas Influenced by Dispersion Techniques

Areas which are attaining either the total suspended particulates of sulfur dioxide standards should be designated as nonattainment if it is known that the standards are being attained solely or partially through use of unauthorized dispersion techniques as described in Section 123 of the Act. However, significant resources should not be devoted to identifying all of these areas prior to the initial (February 3, 1979) designations. It is EPA's intent to eliminate all unauthorized uses of dispersion techniques as expeditiously as practical. We intend to publish a schedule to accomplish this when the tall stack regulations are promulgated.

Enclosures

Enclosures

SECOND HIGHEST HOUR AND DAY OF PHOTOCHEMICAL OXIDANT CONCENTRATIONS FOR URBANIZED AREA WITH GREATER THAN 200,000 POPULATION

POPULATION RANKING	URBANIZED AREA	1970 POPULATION	SAROAD SITE	CODE	YEAR
1.	New York, New York Northeastern N.J.	16,206,841	315060001	F01	1975
2.	Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA	8,351,266	050500002	I01	1976
3.	Chicago, IL-North-Western, IN	6,714,578	141220025	H01	1974
4.	Philadelphia, PA-NJ	4,021,066	391080012	F01	1975
5.	Detroit, MI	3,970,584	231180018	G01	1975
6.	San Francisco-Oakland, CA	2,987,850	053140001	I01	1974
7.	Boston, MA	2,652,575	222340003	F01	1976
8.	Washington, DC-MD-VA	2,481,489	211560001	F01	1974
9.	Cleveland, OH	1,959,880	361300034	H01	1975
10.	St. Louis, MO-IL	1,882,944	260200002	G01	1975
11.	Pittsburgh, PA	1,846,042	391560005	F01	1975
12.	Minnesota-St. Paul, MN	1,704,423	243300030	H01	1975
13.	Houston, TX	1,677,863	452330024	F01	1976
14.	Baltimore, MD	1,579,781	210680001	G01	1976
15.	Dallas, TX	1,338,684	451310045	F01	1974
16.	Milwaukee, WI	1,252,457	512200041	F01	1976
17.	Seattle-Everett, WA	1,238,107	490960001	I01	1974
18.	Miami, FL	1,219,661	102270001	G03	1976
19.	San Diego, CA	1,198,323	055320003	I01	1976
20.	Atlanta, GA	1,172,778	111600002	F01	1975
21.	Cincinnati, OH-KY	1,110,514	362720006	H01	1975
22.	Kansas City, MO-KS	1,101,787	262380022	H01	1975
23.	Buffalo, NY	1,086,594	330130002	F01	1975
24.	Denver, CO	1,047,311	062210001	F01	1974
25.	San Jose, CA	1,025,273	056980004	I01	1976
26.	New Orleans, LA	961,728	192020005	F01	1976
27.	Phoenix, AZ	863,357	030600006	G01	1974
28.	Portland, OR-WA	824,926	381200001	E01	1975
29.	Indianapolis, IN	820,259	152040033	H01	1976
30.	Providence-Pawtucket-Warwick, RI-MA	795,311	220580004	F01	1974

SECOND HIGHEST HOUR AND DAY OF PHOTOCHEMICAL OXIDANT CONCENTRATIONS FOR URBANIZED AREA WITH GREATER THAN 200,000 POPULATION (cont.)

POPULATION RANKING	URBANIZED AREA	2ND HIGH HOUR (Mg/M3)	HIGH 2ND MAX. DAY (Mg/M3)
1.	New York, New York Northeastern N.J.	365	
2.	Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA	725	627
3.	Chicago, IL-North-Western, IN	457	402
4.	Philadelphia, PA-NJ	625	576
5.	Detroit, MI	455	425
6.	San Francisco-Oakland, CA	490	490
7.	Boston, MA	392	392
8.	Washington, DC-MD-VA	451	431
9.	Cleveland, OH	341	268
10.	St. Louis, MO-IL	451	451
11.	Pittsburgh, PA	416	386
12.	Minnesota-St. Paul, MN	231	231
13.	Houston, TX	500	500
14.	Baltimore, MD	510	470
15.	Dallas, TX	367	367
16.	Milwaukee, WI	504	504
17.	Seattle-Everett, WA	255	255
18.	Miami, FL	196	196
19.	San Diego, CA	510	412
20.	Atlanta, GA	324	245
21.	Cincinnati, OH-KY	412	384
22.	Kansas City, MO-KS	294	231
23.	Buffalo, NY	404	311
24.	Denver, CO	490	490
25.	San Jose, CA	333	314
26.	New Orleans, LA	214	214
27.	Phoenix, AZ	357	357
28.	Portland, OR-WA	294	255
29.	Indianapolis, IN	304	238
30.	Providence-Pawtucket-Warwick, RI-MA	396	396

SECOND HIGHEST HOUR AND DAY OF PHOTOCHEMICAL OXIDANT CONCENTRATIONS FOR URBANIZED AREA WITH GREATER THAN 200,000 POPULATION

POPULATION RANKING	URBANIZED AREA	1970 POPULATION	SAROAD SITE	CODE	YEAR
31.	Columbus, OH	790,019	361460004	F01	1976
32.	San Antonio,, TX	772,513	454570036	F01	1976
33.	Louisville, KY-IN	739,396	182380021	G01	1975
34.	Dayton, OH	685,942	361660019	G01	1976
35.	Fort Worth, TX	676,944	451880002	F01	1976
36.	Norfolk-Portsmouth, VA	668,259	482140013	F01	1976
37.	Memphis, TN-MS	663,976	442340021	G01	1975
38.	Sacramento, CA	633,732	056580003	F01	1975
39.	Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood, FL	613,797	102270001	G03	1975
40.	Rochester, NY [1]	601,361	2701-08	(STATE)	1976
41.	San Bernardino-Riverside, CA	583,597	058440003	I01	1975
42.	Oklahoma City, OK	579,788	372200033	F01	1976
43.	Birmingham, AL	558,099	011300003	G01	1975
44.	Akron, OH	542,775	360060015	H01	1976
45.	Jacksonville, FL	529,585	101960048	H01	1974
46.	Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke, MA-CT	514,308	220400004	F01	1976
47.	St. Petersburg, FL	495,159	103980012	H01	1975
48.	Omaha, NE-IA	491,776	281880026	G01	1975
49.	Toledo, OH-MI	487,789	366000006	H01	1976
50.	Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY	486,525	335680001	F01	1975
51.	Salt Lake City, UT	479,342	460060001	F01	1976
52.	Hartford, CT	465,001	070420123	F01	1976
53.	Nashville-Davidson, TN	448,444	442540011	G01	1975
54.	Honolulu, HI	442,397	120120001	F01	1974
55.	Richmond, VA	416,563	481500010	F01	1975
56.	Bridgeport, CT	413,366	070060123	F01	1976
57.	Youngstown-Warren, OH	395,540	367760007	I01	1975
58.	Syracuse, NY	376,169	336620005	F01	1975
59.	Tulsa, OK	371,499	373000127	F02	1976
60.	Wilmington, DE-NJ	371,267	080260002	F01	1977

[1] From State of New York Report- Air Quality Report, Annual 1976

SECOND HIGHEST HOUR AND DAY OF PHOTOCHEMICAL OXIDANT CONCENTRATIONS FOR URBANIZED AREA WITH GREATER THAN 200,000 POPULATION (cont.)

POPULATION RANKING	URBANIZED AREA	2ND HIGH HOUR (Mg/M3)	HIGH 2ND MAX. DAY (Mg/M3)
31.	Columbus, OH	316	397
32.	San Antonio,, TX	347	2 9
33.	Louisville, KY-IN	461	353
34.	Dayton, OH	353	363
35.	Fort Worth, TX	353	301
36.	Norfolk-Portsmouth, VA	280	280
37.	Memphis, TN-MS	255	255
38.	Sacramento, CA	353	353
39.	Fort Lauderdale-Holly-wood, FL	196	196
40.	Rochester, NY [1]	259	
41.	San Bernardino-Riverside, CA	764	764
42.	Oklahoma City, OK	268	252
43.	Birmingham, AL	268	268
44.	Akron, OH	298	243
45.	Jacksonville, FL	372	343
46.	Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke, MA-CT	368	368
47.	St. Petersburg, FL	355	355
48.	Omaha, NE-IA	225	215
49.	Toledo, OH-MI	294	294
50.	Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY	272	2
51.	Salt Lake City, UT	341	341
52.	Hartford, CT	419	419
53.	Nashville-Davidson, TN	392	294
54.	Honolulu, HI	167	167
55.	Richmond, VA	353	322
56.	Bridgeport, CT	447	447
57.	Youngstown-Warren, OH	421	421
58.	Syracuse, NY	220	2
59.	Tulsa, OK	400	3
60.	Wilmington, DE-NJ	>196 [2]	

[1] From State of New York Report- Air Quality Report, Annual 1976

[2] From the State Delaware Report - Monthly Air Quality Data Summary May-August, 1977