

Proposed Ozone NAAQS Revisions

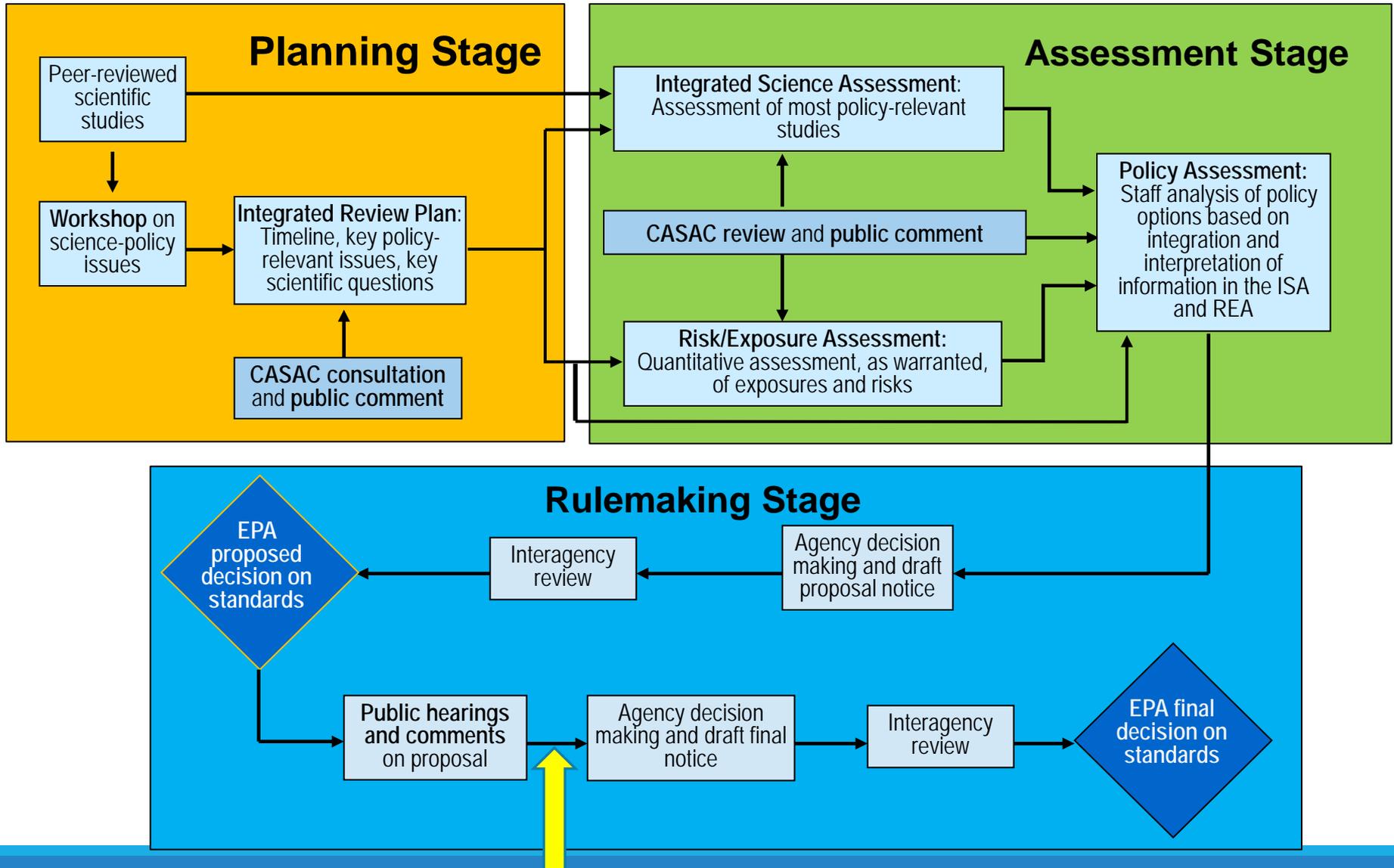
IASC/CARPA Workshop
May 2015



NAAQS Overview

- EPA sets national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for six pollutants.
 - Ground-level ozone
 - Carbon monoxide
 - Nitrogen dioxide
 - Particulate matter
 - Lead
 - Sulfur dioxide
- The Clean Air Act outlines a 2-step process for setting and then meeting standards
- Step 1 is ***setting the standards***, which requires EPA to conduct an extensive scientific review to determine whether new standards are necessary to protect public health and welfare
 - The Clean Air Act bars EPA from considering cost in setting the NAAQS
- Step 2 is ***implementing the standards***, which involves states putting measures and programs in place to reduce harmful pollution to meet the standards.
 - The Clean Air Act specifies that cost, technical feasibility and the time needed to meet the standards are all factors that should be taken into account in this step

NAAQS Development and Review



NAAQS Reviews: Status Update

(updated February 5, 2015)

	Ozone	Lead	Primary NO ₂	Primary SO ₂	Secondary NO ₂ and SO ₂	PM	CO
Last Review Completed (final rule signed)	Mar 2008	Oct 2008	Jan 2010	Jun 2010	Mar 2012	Dec 2012	Aug 2011
Recent or Upcoming Major Milestone(s)¹	<u>August 2014</u> Final REAs Final PA <u>Dec 1, 2014</u> ² Proposed rule <u>Oct 1, 2015</u> ² Final rule	<u>May 2014</u> Final PA <u>Dec 2014</u> Proposed decision	<u>June 2014</u> Final IRP <u>Winter 2015</u> 2 nd Draft ISA REA Planning Document	<u>October 2014</u> Final IRP <u>Summer 2015</u> 1 st Draft ISA <u>Fall 2015</u> REA Planning Document	<u>Summer 2015</u> Draft IRP	Kickoff workshop for next review February 9-11, 2015	<u>TBD</u> ³

Additional information regarding current and previous NAAQS reviews is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/>

¹ IRP – Integrated Review Plan; ISA – Integrated Science Assessment; REA – Risk and Exposure Assessment; PA – Policy Assessment

² Bold and underlined dates indicate court-ordered or settlement agreement deadlines

³ TBD = to be determined

Schedule for the Ozone NAAQS Review Process

- Proposal signed on November 25, 2014
- *Federal Register* Notice published December 17, 2014 (79 FR 75234)
- 90-day public comment period ended March 17, 2015
 - Comments to Docket ID number EPA-HQ-OAR-2008-0699
- 3 Public hearings
- Final Rule signed by October 1, 2015
- Additional information and comment submission instructions at <http://www.epa.gov/air/ozonepollution/>

Overview of Ozone Proposal: NAAQS Level

■ Primary O₃ NAAQS: **65 to 70 ppb**

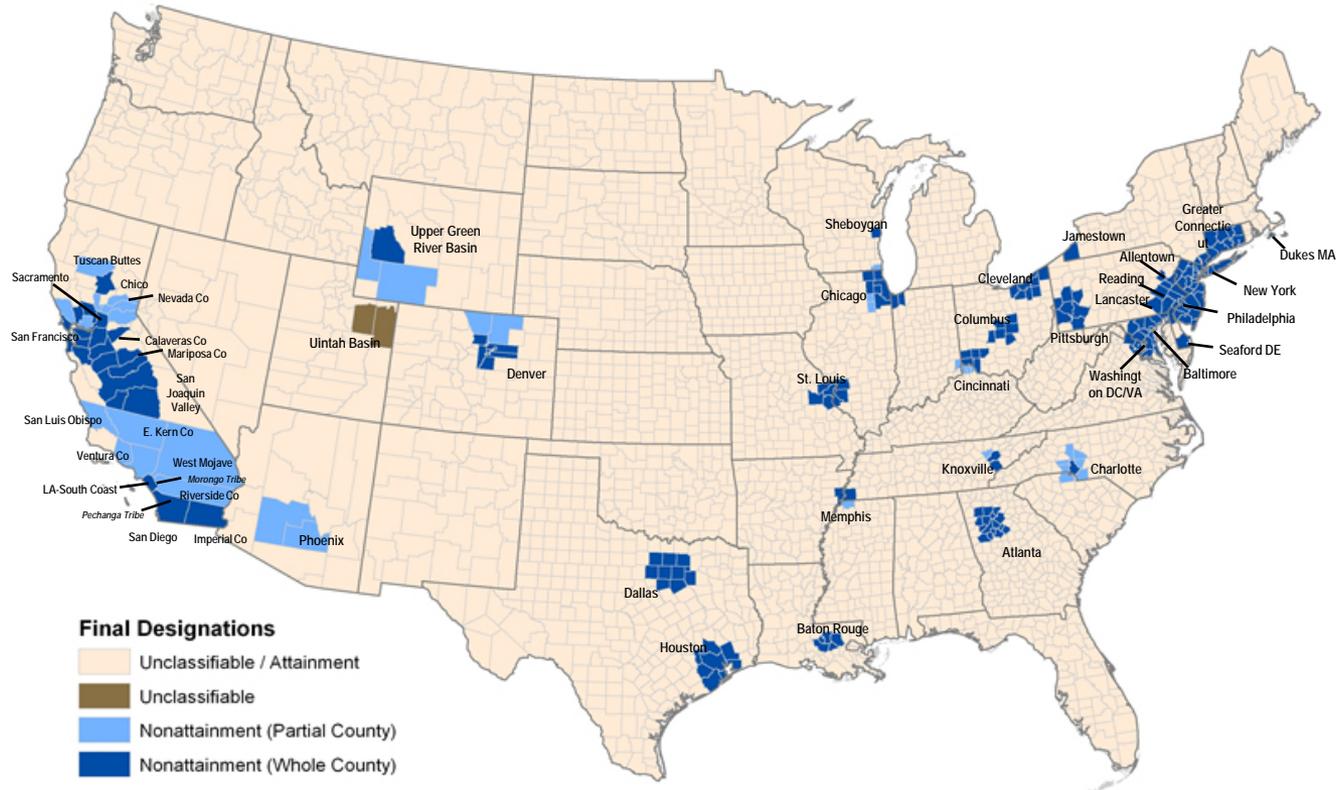
- Current level is 75 ppb
- Taking comment on lower levels including 60 ppb and on retaining the current standard
- Proposed to retain the current indicator, averaging time, and form

■ Secondary O₃ NAAQS – 65-70 ppb

- Would provide the requisite protection equivalent to a seasonal W126 index of 13 to 17 ppm-hours.
- W126 is a seasonal index that is often used to assess the impacts of O₃ exposures on trees, plants and ecosystems

◦ Proposed updates AQI breakpoints, based on the level of a revised primary standard

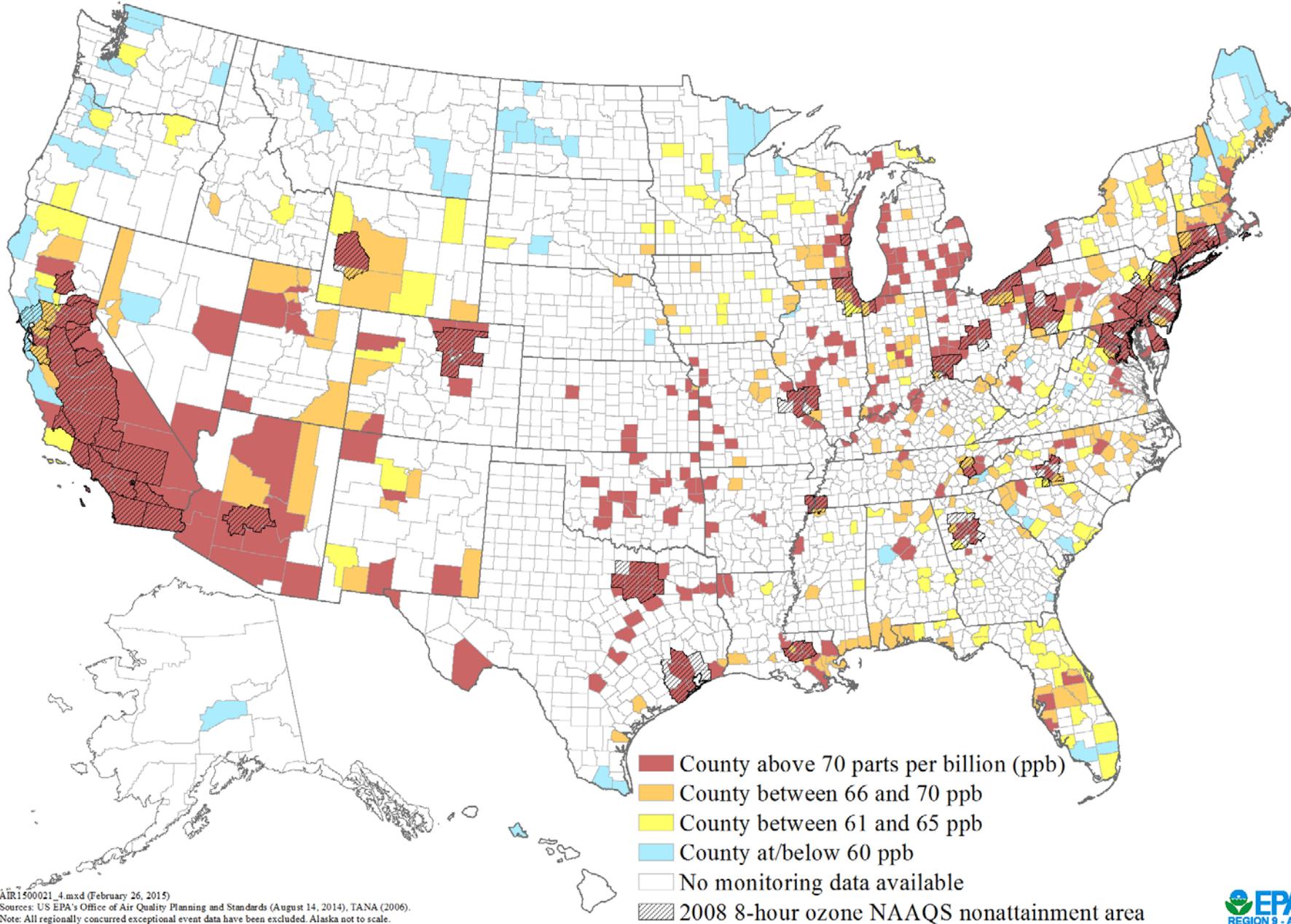
Area Designations for 2008 Ozone NAAQS (Effective July 20, 2012)



Notes:

EPA has not designated as nonattainment any areas outside the Continental US.

2011-2013 COUNTY-LEVEL 8-HOUR OZONE DESIGN VALUES COMPARED TO PROJECTED 65 PPB AND 70 PPB PRIMARY 8-HOUR OZONE STANDARDS



AIR1500021_4.mxd (February 26, 2015)

Sources: US EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (August 14, 2014), TANA (2006).
Note: All regionally concurred exceptional event data have been excluded. Alaska not to scale.

Overview of Ozone Proposal: Other Aspects

- Extending the monitoring season in 33 states (*Section VI.B*)
- New Federal Reference Method (FRM) for measuring ambient ozone to stay current with latest technology (*Section VI.D*)
- Revising minimum Photochemical Assessment Monitoring Stations (PAMS) network requirements to decrease overall burden and increase flexibility (*Section VI.C*)
- Instructions for data handling specific to new standard(s) (*Section V.C*)
- Grandfathering of in-the-pipeline PSD permit applications (*Section VII.D*)
- **Accelerating the “exceptional event” demonstration deadline to ensure air agency claims for 2013-2016 are adequately considered in designations (*Section V.E*)**

Overview of Ozone Proposal: Background Ozone

- Section I.E, Ozone Air Quality, provides general discussion of background ozone
 - Summarizes section 2.4 of the Ozone Policy Assessment
 - Acknowledges that background ozone contributes significantly to ozone levels on some days, especially in some areas in the western U.S. (e.g., Denver)
 - Acknowledges that wildfires contribute to background ozone concentrations and pose a threat to air quality and public safety
 - **Acknowledges that prescribed fire may be used to mitigate the effects of catastrophic wildfire**

- Section VII.F, How Background O₃ is Addressed in CAA Implementation Provisions
 - Identifies and discusses existing CAA mechanisms that states can use to ensure fair and reasonable control requirements (Exceptional Events, Rural Transport, and 179B).
 - **Repeats some fire-related language in I.E, but does not specify mechanisms for treatment, managing, or handling of fire in CAA implementation provisions**

NAAQS Designations and Implementation

Potential Schedule for 2015 Ozone NAAQS Implementation Rules/Guidance/Tools

Action	After NAAQS Promulgation	Actual and (Planned) Dates
EPA <u>proposes</u> 2015 Ozone NAAQS and Monitoring, Exceptional Event Demonstration Schedule, and PSD guidance or rule as part of 2015 NAAQS proposal.		November 25, 2014
EPA <u>finalizes</u> 2015 Ozone NAAQS and Monitoring, Exceptional Event Demonstration Schedule, and PSD guidance or rule as part of 2015 NAAQS final.	Upon promulgation	October 2015
EPA issues Designations guidance	4 months	January 2016
<i>States submit Designation recommendations</i>	<i>12 months</i>	<i>October 2016</i>
As needed, EPA issues Transport Rule and/or revised i-SIP guidance	Up to 12 months	Up to October 2016
EPA <u>proposes</u> Nonattainment Area SIP rules/guidance (including classification, conformity, emission inventory, modeling [e.g., Appendix W], and nonattainment NSR provisions)	12 months	October 2016
EPA <u>finalizes</u> Designations, Classifications, and Attainment Dates*	24 months	October 2017
EPA <u>finalizes</u> Nonattainment Area SIP rules/guidance	24 months	October 2017
EPA issues final SIP templates, toolkits, etc. to assist states with development of nonattainment area plans	24 months	October 2017
<i>States submit Infrastructure and Transport SIPs</i>	<i>36 months</i>	<i>October 2018</i>
<i>States submit Attainment plans</i>	<i>3-4 years</i>	<i>December 2020-2021</i>
<i>Nonattainment Area Attainment Dates (Marginal – Extreme)</i>	<i>3-20 years</i>	<i>December 2020-2037</i>

* Designations can be finalized in 3 years under certain circumstances. If an additional year is used for designations, then an additional year could be used to develop implementation guidance.

Exceptional Events in Designations Efforts

- Example Dates for a Potential 2015 Ozone NAAQS (under a 2-year designations schedule)
 - November 25, 2014 – EPA proposes 2015 Ozone NAAQS
 - ***Mid-2015 - EPA proposes Exceptional Event Rule revisions/guidance***
 - By October 1, 2015 – EPA promulgates 2015 Ozone NAAQS
 - ***Summer 2016 - EPA promulgates Exceptional Event Rule revisions/guidance***
 - October 2016 - States/tribes submit area and boundary recommendations based on 2013-2015 data
 - June 2017 - EPA notifies states/tribes re: any intended modifications to their recommendations (120-day letters) based on 2014-2016 data
 - October 2017 - EPA promulgates final ozone area designations
 - Potential exceptional event schedule

Air Quality Data Collected for Calendar Year	Event Flagging & Initial Description Deadline	Detailed Documentation Submission Deadline
2013 and 2014	July 2016	October 2016
2015	July 2016	October 2016
2016	May 2017	May 2017



More Information

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