

# Technical Support Document:

## Chapter 31

### Final Round 3 Area Designations for the 2010 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for North Dakota

Pursuant to section 107(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the EPA, we, or us) must designate areas as either “nonattainment,” “attainment,” or “unclassifiable” for the 2010 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) primary national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) (2010 SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS). Our Notice of Availability (NOA)<sup>1</sup> and Technical Support Document<sup>2</sup> for our intended designations for this round of designations which we are required to complete by December 31, 2017, provided background on the relevant CAA definitions and the history of the designations for this NAAQS. Chapter 1 of this TSD for the final designations explains the definitions we are applying in the final designations. The TSD for the intended Round 3 area designations also described North Dakota’s recommended designations, assessed the available relevant monitoring, modeling, and any other information, and provided our intended designations.

For North Dakota, there have been no changes in North Dakota’s recommended designations since we communicated our intended designations for areas in North Dakota. This TSD does not repeat information contained in the TSD for our intended designations. For areas of North Dakota that are part of the Round 3 designations process, we are finalizing the designations described in our 120-day letters and the TSD for the intended Round 3 area designations. All the final designations are listed in Table 1 below.

For the areas in North Dakota that are part of the Round 3 designations process, Table 1 identifies the EPA’s final designations and the counties or portions of counties to which they apply. It also lists North Dakota’s current recommendations, which have not been modified since our 120-day letters were sent. The EPA’s final designations for these areas are based on an assessment and characterization of air quality through ambient air quality data, air dispersion modeling, other evidence and supporting information, or a combination of the above.

The EPA received comments from the State of North Dakota regarding the intended designations for areas in North Dakota. These comments are addressed in the Response to Comments document associated with this final action.

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<sup>1</sup> EPA Responses to Certain State Designation Recommendations for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard: Notification of Availability and Public Comment Period, September 5, 2017 (82 FR 41903)

<sup>2</sup> Intended Round 3 Area Designations for the 2010 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard Technical Support Document, August 2017. <https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations/initial-technical-support-documents-area-designations-round-3>

**Table 1. Summary of the EPA’s Final Designations and the Designation Recommendations by North Dakota**

<b>Area/County</b>	<b>North Dakota’s Recommended Area Definition</b>	<b>North Dakota’s Recommended Designation</b>	<b>EPA’s Intended Designation</b>	<b>EPA’s Final Area Definition<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>EPA’s Final Designation<sup>3</sup></b>
Burleigh and Morton Counties	“Area Around Source”	Attainment	Unclassifiable / Attainment	Full County	Attainment/ Unclassifiable
Mercer County (p)	“Area Around Source”	Attainment	Unclassifiable / Attainment	Full County (apart from previously designated areas and the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation)	Attainment/ Unclassifiable
Oliver County	“Area Around Source”	Attainment	Unclassifiable / Attainment	Full County	Attainment/ Unclassifiable
Remaining Undesignated Areas to Be Designated in this Action*	Rest of State	Attainment	Unclassifiable / Attainment	Same as State	Attainment/ Unclassifiable

\* Except for areas that are associated with sources for which North Dakota elected to install and began timely operation of a new, approved SO<sub>2</sub> monitoring network meeting EPA specifications referenced in EPA’s SO<sub>2</sub> DRR (see Table 2), the EPA is designating the remaining undesignated counties (or portions of counties) in North Dakota as “attainment/unclassifiable.” These areas that we are designating as attainment/unclassifiable (those to which this row of this table is applicable) are identified more specifically in section 6 of Chapter 31 (addressing North Dakota) of the TSD for our intended designations.

<sup>1</sup> Includes any Indian country in each county or area, unless otherwise specified. The EPA is not determining the boundaries of any area of Indian country in this table, including any area of Indian country located in the larger designation area. The inclusion of any Indian country in the designation area is not a determination that the state has regulatory authority under the Clean Air Act for such Indian country.

(p) indicates portion of county.

<sup>3</sup> Refer to Chapter 1 of Technical Support Document: Final Round 3 Area Designations for the 2010 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for definitions of the designation categories and the terminology change from Unclassifiable/Attainment to Attainment/Unclassifiable.

Areas for which North Dakota elected to install and began operation of a new, approved SO<sub>2</sub> monitoring network are listed in Table 2. The EPA is required to designate these areas, pursuant to a court ordered schedule, by December 31, 2020. Table 2 also lists the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions sources around which each new, approved monitoring network has been established.

**Table 2. Undesignated Areas Which the EPA Is Not Addressing in this Round of Designations (and Associated Source)**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Source(s)</b>
Williams County	Amerada Hess – Tioga Gas Plant