

**CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES**

A hearing to accept public comments concerning a proposed Ozone Advance Action Plan for the Richmond-Petersburg Ozone Maintenance Area was held in Richmond, Virginia on April 5, 2013.

The public was given notice of the hearing in the Virginia Register on March 11, 2013 (copy attached).

The complete record of the hearing, along with any comments received and responses thereto, is located at the Air Division of the Department of Environmental Quality. The Department contact to access this information is the Director, Air Division.

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### **Richmond - Petersburg Ozone Advance Action Plan**

Notice of action: The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is seeking comments and announcing a public hearing on a proposed plan to promote continued compliance with the national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for ozone in the Richmond-Petersburg Maintenance Area. This Ozone Advance Action Plan is a plan developed by the Commonwealth in order to meet its overall clean air goals under the federal Clean Air Act by attaining and maintaining the ambient air quality standards promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Act.

Purpose of notice: DEQ is seeking comments on the overall plan.

Public comment period: March 11, 2013, to April 9, 2013.

Public hearing: Conference Room A, DEQ Main Street Office, 629 East Main Street, Richmond, VA at 10 a.m. on April 5, 2013.

Description of proposal: This Ozone Advance Action Plan covers the Richmond-Petersburg Ozone Maintenance Area, consisting of the counties of Charles City, Chesterfield,

Hanover, Henrico, and Prince George, and the cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell, Petersburg, and Richmond. On May 21, 2012, EPA designated this area as attainment/maintenance for the 2008 ozone national ambient air quality standard. To help ensure continued clean air, the leaders from these jurisdictions have worked cooperatively with DEQ and a number of stakeholders to create the plan, which details the numerous clean air programs that are in place and will be implemented to reduce substances that contribute to the formation of ozone. Air quality in the area will continue to improve through the implementation of these programs. Major stakeholders in this process include the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization; the Crater Metropolitan Planning Organization; Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy; Virginia Department of Transportation; Virginia Port Authority; United States Army Military Base Fort Lee; Dominion Virginia Power; Virginia Clean Cities Coalition; Richmond RideFinders; and Virginia Commonwealth University. Actions taken as part of the plan and various upwind reductions of ozone and particulate matter will continue to improve air quality well into the future.

Federal information: This notice is being given to provide the general public with the opportunity to provide input on the plan. Ozone Advance Action Plans are voluntary plans developed in cooperation with EPA and are intended to enable the Commonwealth to meet its general federal requirement to attain and maintain the NAAQS; however, there is no mandatory requirement for this type of plan to undergo public comment.

How to comment: DEQ accepts written comments by email, fax, and postal mail. In order to be considered, comments must include the full name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ no later than the last day of the comment period. DEQ prefers that comments be provided in writing, along with any supporting information. Comments on the plan must be submitted to the contact person below. All materials received are part of the public record.

To review the proposal: The proposal and any supporting documents are available on the DEQ Air Public Notices for Plans website (<http://www.deq.state.va.us/Programs/Air/PublicNotices/airplansandprograms.aspx>). The documents may also be obtained by contacting the DEQ representative named below. The public may review the documents between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. of each business day until the close of the public comment period at the following DEQ locations:

- 1) Main Street Office, 629 East Main Street, 8th Floor, Richmond, VA, telephone (804) 698-4070, and
- 2) Piedmont Regional Office, 4949-A Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA, telephone (804) 527-5020.

Contact Information: Doris A. McLeod, Department of Environmental Quality, 592 East Main Street, P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, VA 23218, telephone (804) 698-4197, FAX (804) 698-4510, TDD (804) 698-4021, or email [doris.mcleod@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:doris.mcleod@deq.virginia.gov).

