Guidance on Development and Submission of Infrastructure State Implementation Plans for National Ambient Air Quality Standards

FACT SHEET

ACTIONS

- On September 13, 2013, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued guidance to help state, local and tribal air agencies develop and submit their infrastructure State Implementation Plans (SIPs) to comply with provisions of Clean Air Act sections 110(a)(1) and 110(a)(2).

- Infrastructure SIPs outline the requisite building blocks of state air quality management programs such as air quality monitoring and enforcement programs. EPA’s guidance will provide air agencies guidelines to develop and submit infrastructure SIPs that provide the basis to ensure public health through air quality management.

- This non-binding guidance provides recommendations for air agencies to develop infrastructure SIPs for the 2008 ozone primary and secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), the 2010 primary nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) NAAQS, the 2010 primary sulfur dioxide (SO₂) NAAQS, and the 2012 primary fine particulate matter (PM₂.₅) NAAQS, as well as infrastructure SIPs for new or revised NAAQS promulgated in the future.

- State, local and tribal air agencies may continue to rely on this guidance to develop infrastructure SIPs for future new or revised NAAQS. If necessary, this guidance may be supplemented or replaced at the time a new or revised NAAQS is promulgated.

- This guidance does not address section 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(I), which specifically concerns interstate pollution transport affecting attainment and maintenance of the NAAQS. The EPA expects to issue guidance in the future with respect to this element.

BACKGROUND

- Under Clean Air Act sections 110(a)(1) and 110(a)(2), each state is required to submit a SIP that provides for the implementation, maintenance and enforcement of a revised primary or secondary NAAQS.

- Clean Air Act section 110(a)(1) and section 110(a)(2) require each state to make this new SIP submission within three years after EPA promulgates a new or revised NAAQS.

- This type of SIP submission is commonly referred to as an “infrastructure SIP.”
These Clean Air Act sections and this guidance may also apply, as appropriate under the Tribal Authority Rule (TAR) in 40 CFR part 49, to an Indian tribe that receives a determination of eligibility for treatment as a state for purposes of administering a tribal air quality management program under section 110(a) of the Clean Air Act. Tribes should look to the TAR and engage their EPA Regional Offices in discussing how this guidance may impact the development and approvability of their TIPs. We encourage states to provide outreach and engage in discussions with tribes about their SIPs as they are being developed.

Section 110(a)(1) directs each state to submit an infrastructure SIP to the EPA after reasonable notice and public hearing.

Section 110(a)(2) specifies the substantive elements that state SIP submissions need to address for EPA approval and includes requirements for: emissions limits and control measures, ambient air quality monitoring, enforcement of Clean Air Act permitting programs, adequate personnel and funding, adequate authorities, stationary source monitoring, consultations with government officials, public notifications, PSD and visibility protection, modeling/data, permitting fees, and participation by affected local entities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the Infrastructure SIP Guidance go to EPA’s Web site at http://www.epa.gov/airquality/urbanair/sipstatus/ or contact either H. Lynn Dail at 919-541-2363 or dail.lynn@epa.gov or Lisa Sutton at 919-541-3450 or sutton.lisa@epa.gov.