

## For More Information

To download a copy of the notice of final rulemaking, visit:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2022-21662>

To download a copy of the notice of proposed rulemaking, visit:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/06/01/2022-11269/approval-and-promulgation-of-air-quality-implementation-plans-michigan-federal-implementation-plan>

The proposed and final actions as well as other background information are available electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, Docket ID No. **EPA-R05-OAR-2021-0536**.

Additional documents about the plan can be found on the following website:

<https://www.epa.gov/mi/detroit-so2-federal-implementation-plan>

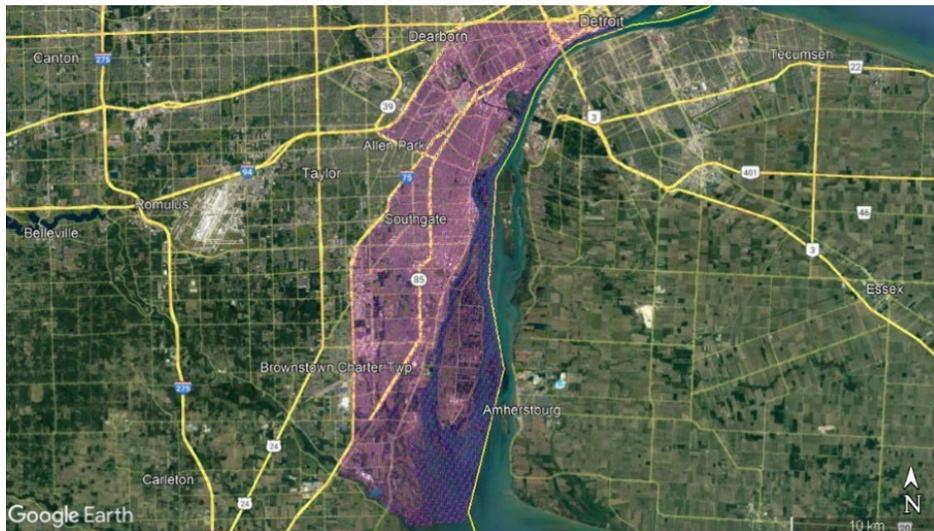
## Contact EPA

For more information about the plan contact:

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You may call EPA's Chicago office toll-free at 800-621-8431, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. weekdays.



*Map of Detroit Sulfur Dioxide Nonattainment Area*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has released a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) to bring the Detroit sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) nonattainment area in Wayne County, Michigan, into attainment with the 2010 SO<sub>2</sub> primary national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS). The FIP will reduce SO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, which means cleaner, healthier air for the residents of Detroit, especially children, the elderly, and those who suffer from asthma. Reduced levels of SO<sub>2</sub> and other sulfur oxides are also beneficial for the environment. A decrease in these compounds means less haze and acid rain, which can harm sensitive ecosystems. This action is in line with EPA's agency-wide commitment to advance environmental justice and deliver benefits to underserved and overburdened communities.

The boundaries of the impacted area are:

- The Michigan-Ontario border on the east.
- The Wayne County-Monroe County border on the south.
- Interstate 75 north to Southfield Road, Southfield Road to Interstate 94, and Interstate 94 north to Michigan Avenue on the west.
- Michigan Avenue to Woodward Avenue and a line on Woodward Avenue extended to the Michigan-Ontario border on the north.

The FIP includes an attainment demonstration and other elements required under the Clean Air Act. The attainment strategy includes previously approved limits for the DTE Energy Trenton Channel coal-fired powerplant and the Carmeuse Lime facility, as well as the shutdown of the DTE Energy River Rouge coal-fired powerplant.

The FIP regulatory language includes new SO<sub>2</sub> emission limits throughout the U.S. Steel facility. Additionally, the FIP includes several new requirements for U.S. Steel's Boilerhouse 2, including the requirement to combine and raise its stacks to increase dispersion, new limits, and installation of a new Continuous Emissions Monitoring System.

EPA evaluated two scenarios based on the separate limits proposed for U.S. Steel Boilerhouse 2 as part of its modeling analysis. In both scenarios, the modeling for the Detroit area showed a maximum concentration of 73.6 parts per billion (ppb), which is below the health-based standard of 75 ppb.

The maximum modeled concentration resulted from modeling all units at maximum permitted levels based on the proposed emission limits included in the FIP, emission limits that EPA has already approved, or maximum uncontrolled emissions.

### **Public Comments**

EPA held a 45-day public comment period following the publication of the proposed plan on June 1, 2022, as well as a virtual public hearing on June 16, 2022. In the notice of final rulemaking, EPA responded to comments from industry, residents, and environmental advocates. EPA made minor changes in response to comments, but generally finalized the FIP as proposed.

### **Background**

On June 22, 2010, EPA published a new 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS of 75 ppb. On August 5, 2013, EPA designated 29 areas of the country as nonattainment for the 2010 SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS, including the Detroit area.

Section 191 of the Clean Air Act directs states to submit state implementation plans for areas designated as nonattainment for the SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS to EPA within 18 months of the effective date of the designation. Nonattainment is defined as any area that does not meet (or that contributes to ambient air quality in a nearby area that does not meet) the national primary or secondary NAAQS.

For several nonattainment areas, including the Detroit area, EPA published an action on March 18, 2016, finding that Michigan and 10 other states had failed to submit the required SO<sub>2</sub> nonattainment plan by the submittal deadline. Under Clean Air Act section 110(c), the finding triggered a requirement that EPA publish a FIP within two years of the finding unless, by that time, (a) the state had made the necessary complete submittal, and (b) EPA had approved the submittal as meeting applicable requirements.

Michigan submitted a Detroit SO<sub>2</sub> attainment plan on May 31, 2016. However, on March 19, 2021, EPA partially approved and partially disapproved Michigan's SO<sub>2</sub> plan as submitted in 2016. EPA disapproved the plan's control measures for two facilities as not demonstrating attainment. Therefore, EPA is finalizing a FIP for the Detroit SO<sub>2</sub> nonattainment area to help reduce SO<sub>2</sub>.

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- The proposed and final actions and other background information are also available electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, Docket ID No. EPA-R05-OAR-2021-0536.
- To review EPA's environmental justice policies and mandates, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/learn-about-environmental-justice>
- For further technical information about the rule, please contact Abigail Teener with EPA's Region 5 Air and Radiation Division, at (312) 353-7314 or [DetroitFIP@epa.gov](mailto:DetroitFIP@epa.gov).