

ATTACHMENT F

NOTICES

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To: Air Pollution Control Officers/Executive Officers

The California Clean Air Act (Act) of 1988, Health and Safety Code section 39608, requires the Air Resources Board (Board) to identify and classify each area of the State as attainment, nonattainment, or unclassified for the State ambient air quality standards, and review and update the area designations annually. The Board will review this year's staff proposal at a public hearing in November 2000.

The designation criteria provide that any request for a change in designation or any submittal of information for consideration in the annual review should be supplied to the Board's staff in writing by May 1 of each year. For the Board to redesignate an area as nonattainment-transitional for a pollutant other than ozone, the district must request such action by May 1 of each year (California Code of Regulations, section 70303 (c)). A district requesting redesignation to nonattainment-transitional needs to provide information demonstrating that: (1) the State standard is expected to be attained throughout the area within three years; and (2) the standard was not violated on more than two days at any monitoring site in the area during 1999.

For the Board to redesignate an area as nonattainment-transitional for ozone, the district need not make any request. Qualifying areas are redesignated as nonattainment-transitional for ozone by operation of law and confirmed by the Board's staff at the public hearing, in accordance with California Code of Regulations, section 70303.5.

Please send any written requests for redesignations and any supporting documentation to me at the address stated above. If you have any questions regarding area designations, please contact Debora Popejoy at (916) 323-5123, or dpopejoy@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Fletcher, Chief
Planning and Technical Support Division

cc: Debora Popejoy, Manager
Air Quality Analysis Section

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Dear Sir/Madam:

**Public Consultation Meeting to Discuss Proposed Amendments to the
Area Designations for State Ambient Air Quality Standards
Required by Health and Safety Code Sections 39607(e) and 39608**

The California Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) staff is holding a public consultation meeting to obtain and discuss comments relating to proposed amendments to the area designation regulations for the State ambient air quality standards (State standards). The public consultation meeting will be held at the time and location shown below:

DATE: Monday, August 21, 2000

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Third Floor Conference Room
California Air Resources Board
2020 "L" Street
Sacramento, California

The Health and Safety Code (H&SC) section 39607(e) requires the Board to establish and periodically review area designation criteria. These designation criteria provide the basis for the Board to designate areas as attainment, nonattainment, or unclassified for the State standards. The staff is not proposing any changes to the designation criteria this year.

In addition, H&SC section 39608 requires the Board to establish and annually review the area designations. The Board makes area designations for nine pollutants: ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, suspended particulate matter (PM₁₀), sulfates, lead, hydrogen sulfide, and visibility reducing particles. Based on the most recently available three years of air quality data (data collected during 1997 through 1999), the staff plans to propose to the Board several amendments to the area designations.

Dear Sir/Madam:

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The staff proposes to redesignate the Butte, Glenn, and Mono County Air Pollution Control Districts (APCDs) from nonattainment-transitional to nonattainment for ozone. In addition, the staff proposes to redesignate the Antelope Valley, Santa Barbara County, and San Luis Obispo County APCDs from nonattainment to nonattainment-transitional for ozone. (If, however, any data for the current year show more than three exceedances at any monitoring location in the aforementioned areas, then the staff will withdraw the proposal to redesignate to nonattainment-transitional for that area.)

At the public consultation meeting, the ARB staff will present an overview of the proposed amendments to the area designations and also the rationale for each proposed amendment. There are also several areas of the State where the air quality appears to qualify it for attainment designation, but the data are either incomplete, the site(s) in the area do not meet the criteria for measuring the highest concentration, or the size of the designation area for that particular pollutant is made on a larger scale. In addition, there are areas that have one or more exceedances that would signal a nonattainment designation. The exceedance(s), however, are excluded as affected by a highly irregular or infrequent event. The staff will discuss these areas for which redesignation is not recommended.

The proposed changes to the area designations and the areas for which redesignation is not recommended are summarized in Attachment 1. A brief discussion of the reasons for the proposed redesignations is provided in Attachment 2. An agenda for the meeting is provided in Attachment 3.

If you have any questions about the public consultation meeting or the proposed amendments to the regulations, please contact Ms. Debora Popejoy, Manager of the Air Quality Analysis Section, at (916) 323-5123, or dpopejoy@arb.ca.gov. For further information, visit our web site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/desig/desig.htm>.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Fletcher, Chief
Planning and Technical Support Division

cc: Debora Popejoy, Manager
Air Quality Analysis Section

ATTACHMENT 1

2000 AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR STATE AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

PROPOSED CHANGES			
Pollutant	Area	Designation Status*	
		Current	Proposed
Ozone	Antelope Valley APCD	N	N-T
	Butte County APCD	N-T	N
	Glenn County APCD	N-T	N
	Mono County APCD	N-T	N
	Santa Barbara County APCD	N	N-T
	San Luis Obispo County APCD	N	N-T
AREAS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR REDESIGNATION			
Pollutant	Area	Current	
		Designation Status*	
Ozone	Colusa County APCD	N-T	
	Inyo County	U	
	North Central Coast Air Basin	N	
PM₁₀	El Dorado County (Mountain Counties Air Basin portion)	N	
Nitrogen Dioxide	City of Calexico	A	
Hydrogen Sulfide	Inyo County	A	
Sulfates	Los Angeles County (South Coast Air Basin portion)	A	
	San Diego Air Basin	A	

*Designation Status:

A = Attainment

N = Nonattainment

N-T = Nonattainment-Transitional

U = Unclassified

ATTACHMENT 2 REASONS FOR PROPOSED REDESIGNATIONS

Ozone: Nonattainment to Nonattainment-Transitional

Nonattainment-transitional is a subcategory of nonattainment which indicates that an area is getting close to attainment. Nonattainment-transitional designations occur by operation of law. Health and Safety Code section 40925.5 requires districts with 3 or fewer exceedances of the State ozone standard during a single calendar year to be designated as nonattainment-transitional. Unlike other designation categories, the nonattainment-transitional designation does not allow excluding exceedances that are affected by highly irregular or infrequent events.

The Antelope Valley, Santa Barbara County, and the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control Districts (APCDs) are being proposed to be redesignated to nonattainment-transitional by operation of law. All three districts had 3 or fewer exceedances of the State ozone standard in 1999.

Ozone: Nonattainment-Transitional to Nonattainment

The redesignations of the Butte and Glenn County APCDs also occur by operation of law. As stated above, Health and Safety Code section 40925.5 requires areas with 3 or fewer exceedances of the State ozone standard during a single calendar year to be designated as nonattainment-transitional. When an area no longer meets that criteria, it reverts back to nonattainment. Both Butte and Glenn County had more than 3 exceedances in 1999 and, hence, revert back to nonattainment. The Districts believe that these exceedances are due to exceptional events (i.e. wildfires) and transport. Although these types of events are not excluded from the designation of nonattainment–transitional, they are considered when evaluating a district’s plan. The ARB staff believes that no new control measures will be required as a result of this redesignation.

The redesignation of Mono County from nonattainment-transitional to nonattainment is being proposed because the ozone monitor in Mammoth Lakes has been shut down and therefore the nonattainment-transitional designation can no longer be documented. Until such time a monitor is relocated, the County will remain nonattainment.

ATTACHMENT 3

AGENDA FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING

August 21, 2000

10:00 a.m.

Third Floor Conference Room
California Air Resources Board
2020 "L" Street
Sacramento, California 95814

AGENDA

I. STAFF PRESENTATION

A. Introduction

B. Proposed Amendments to the Area Designations*

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. Ozone (N-T → N): | Butte County, Glenn County, and Mono County APCD |
| (N → N-T): | Antelope Valley, Santa Barbara County, and San Luis Obispo County APCD |

C. Areas Not Recommended for Redesignation

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Ozone: | Colusa County, Inyo County, and North Central Coast Air Basin |
| 2. PM ₁₀ : | El Dorado County (Mountain Counties Air Basin portion) |
| 3. Nitrogen Dioxide: | City of Calexico in Imperial County |
| 4. Hydrogen Sulfide: | Inyo County |
| 5. Sulfates: | San Diego and Los Angeles County (South Coast Air Basin portion) |

II. GENERAL DISCUSSION

A. Discussion of Proposed Amendments

B. Additional Related Issues

*Designation Status:

A = Attainment

N = Nonattainment

N-T = Nonattainment-Transitional