

## **AIR QUALITY PLANNING SECTION UPDATE: AUGUST 18, 2010, SETPMTc MEETING**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the proposed Clean Air Transport Rule in the August 2, 2010, *Federal Register*. Staff is currently reviewing the proposal. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has requested that the EPA grant a 90-day extension of the public comment period and hold an additional public hearing for the proposed rule at a Texas location.

The EPA strengthened the primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) by final rule published in the June 22, 2010, *Federal Register*. The rule sets a new one-hour standard not to exceed 75 parts per billion (ppb), as determined by a three-year average of the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile of the annual distribution of daily maximum one-hour average concentrations. Staff is currently reviewing the information provided with the final standard and preparing to develop designation recommendations.

The EPA strengthened the primary NAAQS for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) by final rule published in the February 9, 2010, *Federal Register*. The rule establishes a new one-hour NO<sub>2</sub> standard at 100 ppb. State designation recommendations are due to the EPA in January 2011. Staff is currently reviewing the information provided with the final standard and preparing to develop designation recommendations.

Written comments on potential ozone nonattainment area boundaries and designations for the EPA's proposed 2010 ozone air quality standards will be accepted until close-of-business September 3, 2010. For instructions on how to submit comments and updated information, please check the [TCEQ's Web page](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/aqps/eighthour.html).  
<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/aqps/eighthour.html>

A [draft SIP timeline](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/implementation/air/sip/miscdocs/SIP_Time_line_062010.pdf), which reflects the ongoing SIP revision activities through 2013, is posted on the [SIP Hot Topics Web page](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/implementation/air/sip/miscdocs/SIP_Time_line_062010.pdf).  
[http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/implementation/air/sip/miscdocs/SIP\\_Time\\_line\\_062010.pdf](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/implementation/air/sip/miscdocs/SIP_Time_line_062010.pdf) and <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/air/sip/Hottop.html>

The executive director approved a concept memo to begin working on a Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Update State Implementation Plan (SIP) Revision (Project No. 2010-028-SIP-NR). The purpose of this SIP revision is to provide the EPA a RACT analysis update to include Control Techniques Guidelines (CTG) that were not addressed in the March 2010 HGB Attainment Demonstration SIP Revision for the 1997 Eight-Hour Ozone Standard and to incorporate any CTG-related rulemaking (Rule Project No. 2010-016-115-EN) currently being considered for the HGB area. These revisions are tentatively scheduled for proposal in May 2011 with adoption in November 2011. For further information contact Nikki Dowiak at (512) 239-3931 for the proposed rulemaking and Lola Brown, at (512) 239-0348 or Angela Kissel at (512) 239-0707 for the proposed SIP revision.

Public hearings on proposed revisions to the VOC degassing rules in 30 TAC Chapter 115 will be held in Austin on September 7, 2010; in Houston on September 8, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. at the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC); and in Fort Worth on September 9, 2010. The comment period closes September 13, 2010. The contact for this project is Eddy Lin, Air Quality Division, at (512) 239-3932. More information can be found on the [TCEQ's current rule proposals Web page](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/rules/prop.html#09050).  
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