

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
June 2, 2023

Plain Language Summary of the Ozone Reasonable Further Progress Plan for the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) and Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) Areas

Introduction

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the maximum level of ozone in the air to protect human health (70 parts per billion for the 2015 ozone standard). Nine counties in the DFW area (Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Tarrant, and Wise Counties) and six counties in the HGB area (Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, and Montgomery Counties) do not meet the EPA's 2015 standard for ozone and are classified as moderate nonattainment areas under that standard. Texas must develop a plan for the DFW and HGB areas, known as a State Implementation Plan or SIP, that shows progress in reducing emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x), pollutants that lead to the formation of ozone. This plan must show that the state is making progress towards meeting the 2015 ozone standard by the EPA's deadline of August 3, 2024.

Summary

The proposed plan shows that the DFW and HGB areas are making yearly progress toward meeting the EPA's 2015 ozone standard by reducing emissions of VOC and NO_x according to the EPA's required emissions reduction benchmarks (Project No. 2022-023-SIP-NR). The proposed plan also includes motor vehicle emissions budgets for 2023.

Public Comment and Hearing Information

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will offer a public hearing in Arlington on July 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of Arlington City Hall located at 101 West Abrams Street. The TCEQ will also offer a public hearing in Houston on July 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room ABC of the Houston-Galveston Area Council located at 3555 Timmons Lane #100. In addition to receiving public comments on the proposed DFW-HGB areas reasonable further progress plan (Project No. 2022-023-SIP-NR), the hearing in Arlington will also be offered to receive public comments on a proposed attainment plan for the DFW area (2022-021-SIP-NR) and a proposed rulemaking to amend rules for the state's low Reid vapor pressure program (Project No. 2022-026-114-AI). The hearing in Houston will also be offered to receive public comments on a proposed attainment plan for the HGB area (2022-022-SIP-NR).

The hearings will be conducted in English, and Spanish language interpretation services will be available. For accommodation needs, contact Brad Patterson, Office of

the Chief Clerk at (512) 239-1201 or 1-800-RELAY-TX (TDD) as far in advance as possible.

The comment period for this project opens on June 2, 2023 and closes on July 17, 2023. Submit written comments through the *TCEQ Public Comments* system at <https://tceq.commentinput.com/>. Comments for the proposed reasonable further progress plan must reference **SIP Project Number 2022-023-SIP-NR**.

The proposed reasonable further progress plan documents can be found on the TCEQ's website at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/sip/siplans.html#prosips>.

For more information about the proposals or to get help with submitting written comments, contact Denine Calvin, SIP Project Manager, (512) 239-0613 or denine.calvin@tceq.texas.gov.