



SIP Revision: Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) Serious Classification 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone Attainment Demonstration (AD), March 4, 2020

On March 4, 2020, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) adopted an AD State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision for the DFW serious nonattainment area under the 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

Summary of the SIP Revision

Adoption Date: 03/04/2020

Proposal Date: 09/11/2019

EPA Approval Date: Pending

Background: The federal Clean Air Act (CAA) requires states to submit plans to demonstrate attainment of the NAAQS for nonattainment areas within the state. On March 12, 2008, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lowered the eight-hour ozone standard from 0.08 parts per million (ppm) to 0.075 ppm. On December 14, 2016, the eight-county HGB area, consisting of Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery and Waller Counties, was reclassified from marginal to moderate nonattainment under the 2008 eight-hour ozone NAAQS. A July 20, 2018 attainment date for moderate nonattainment areas was established in the EPA's implementation rule for the 2008 ozone NAAQS published in the *Federal Register* (FR) on May 21, 2012 ([77 FR 30160](#) [Exit...](#)). Based on monitoring data from 2015, 2016, and 2017, the HGB area did not attain the 2008 eight-hour ozone NAAQS in 2017 and did not qualify for a one-year attainment date extension in accordance with CAA, §181(a)(5). On August 23, 2019, the EPA published the final notice reclassifying the HGB nonattainment area from moderate to serious for the 2008 eight-hour ozone NAAQS, effective September 23, 2019 ([84 FR 44238](#) [Exit...](#)).

Since the HGB area was reclassified by the EPA, the area became subject to the serious nonattainment area requirements in CAA, §182(c) and the TCEQ was required to submit serious classification AD and reasonable further progress (RFP) SIP revisions to the EPA. As indicated in the EPA's *Implementation of the 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone: State Implementation Plan Requirements; Final Rule* (2008 eight-hour ozone standard SIP requirements rule) published on March 6, 2015 ([80 FR 12264](#) [Exit...](#)), the attainment date for a serious classification is July 20, 2021 with a 2020 attainment year. The EPA set an August 3, 2020 deadline for states to submit AD and RFP SIP revisions to address the 2008 eight-hour ozone standard serious nonattainment area requirements.

Key Changes: This SIP revision included the following CAA-required SIP elements for an area with a serious ozone nonattainment classification:

- Requirements to demonstrate attainment through photochemical modeling and a weight of evidence analysis;
- Reasonably available control technology (RACT) and reasonably available control measures (RACM) analyses;



- Motor vehicle emissions budgets for the 2020 attainment year; and
- Contingency plan.

SIP Narrative and Appendices

Files linked from this page are in Portable Document Format ([PDF](#)).

HGB Serious Classification AD SIP for the 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone NAAQS (Non-Rule Project No. 2019-077-SIP-NR)

- Adopted **HGB Serious Classification AD SIP Revision**
- Adopted Appendices
 - **Appendix A: Meteorological Modeling for the DFW and HGB Attainment Demonstration SIP Revisions for the 2009 Eight-Hour Ozone Standard**
 - **Appendix B: Emissions Modeling for the DFW and HGB Attainment Demonstration SIP Revisions for the 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone Standard**
 - **Appendix C: Regional and Global Photochemical Modeling for the DFW and HGB Attainment Demonstration SIP Revisions for the 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone Standard**
 - **Appendix D: Conceptual Model for the HGB Attainment Demonstration SIP Revision for the 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone Standard**
 - **Appendix E: Modeling Protocol for the DFW and HGB Attainment Demonstration SIP Revisions for the 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone Standard**
 - **Appendix F: Reasonably Available Control Technology Analysis**
 - **Appendix G: Reasonably Available Control Measures Analysis**
 - **Appendix H: Local Initiatives Submitted by the Houston-Galveston Area Council**