

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
June 2, 2023

Plain Language Summary of the Ozone Attainment Plan for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) Area

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). 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 a moderate nonattainment area under that standard. Texas must develop a plan, known as a state implementation plan or SIP, to reduce ozone in this area to meet the standard by the EPA's deadline of August 3, 2024.

Summary

The proposed attainment plan for the HGB area includes a photochemical modeling analysis and a weight-of-evidence analysis that evaluate the attainment status of the area (Project No. 2022-022-SIP-NR). The proposed attainment plan also includes an analysis of possible reasonably available control measures and technology as well as motor vehicle emissions budgets for 2023. An included contingency plan will provide additional emissions reductions if the area fails to meet the EPA's standard by the deadline.

Public Comment and Hearing Information

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will offer a public hearing in Houston on July 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Houston-Galveston Area Council, 3555 Timmons Lane, #100, Houston, Texas 77027. This hearing is offered to receive public comments on the proposed attainment plan for the HGB area (Project No. 2022-022-SIP-NR). The hearing is also offered to receive public comments on a reasonable further progress plan for the HGB area (Project No. 2022-023-SIP-NR). The hearing will be conducted in English, and Spanish language interpretation services will be made 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 *eComments* system at <https://tceq.commentinput.com/>. Comments for the proposed attainment plan must reference **SIP Project No. 2022-022-SIP-NR**.

The proposed attainment 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 Vanessa T. De Arman, SIP Project Manager, 512-239-5609 or vanessa.dearman@tceq.texas.gov.