Texas Commission on Environmental Quality July 9, 2025

Plain Language Summary of the 2015 Ozone Serious Reasonable Further Progress Plan for Bexar County

Introduction

To protect human health, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established a limit, or standard, for the level of ozone in the air (70 parts per billion for the 2015 ozone standard). Bexar County does not meet EPA's 2015 standard for ozone and is classified as a serious nonattainment area under that standard. This proposed plan, known as a reasonable further progress state implantation plan (SIP) revision, is required to show progress in reducing emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x), pollutants that lead to the formation of ozone (Project No. 2024-040-SIP-NR). This plan must show that the state is making progress towards meeting the 2015 ozone standard by EPA's deadline of September 24, 2027.

Summary

The proposed plan shows that Bexar County is making yearly progress toward meeting EPA's 2015 ozone standard by reducing emissions of VOC and NO_x according to EPA's required emissions reduction benchmarks. The proposed plan incorporates emissions reductions from proposed rules that amend 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 115 (Project Nos. 2025-006-115-AI). The proposed plan also provides a vehicle miles traveled demonstration and includes motor vehicle emissions budgets for 2023 and 2026. An included contingency plan will provide for additional emissions reductions if the area fails to meet the required emissions reduction benchmarks.

Public Comment and Hearing Information

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will offer a public hearing in San Antonio on August 19, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time (CDT) in the Alamo Area Council of Governments board room located at 2700 Northeast Loop 410, Suite 101. In addition to receiving public comments on the proposed Bexar County reasonable further progress plan (Project No. 2024-040-SIP-NR), the hearing in San Antonio will also be offered to receive public comments on a proposed attainment plan for Bexar County (2024-041-SIP-NR) and on two proposed rulemakings relating to air pollutant control strategies (Project Nos. 2025-006-115-AI and 2025-007-117-AI).

The hearing will be conducted in English, and instructions for participating in the hearing will also be provided in Spanish. For accommodation needs, contact Sandy Wong, General Law Division at (512) 239-1802 or 1-800-RELAY-TX (TDD) as far in advance as possible.

The comment period for this project opens on July 11, 2025 and closes on August 25, 2025. Submit written comments through the *TCEQ Public Comments* system at

<u>https://tceq.commentinput.com/</u>. Comments for the proposed reasonable further progress plan must reference **SIP Project Number 2024-040-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/sipplans.html#prosips.

For more information about the proposal or to get help with submitting written comments, contact Emily Wagoner, SIP Project Manager, (512) 239-4994 or emily.wagoner@tceq.texas.gov.