

## Plain Language Summary of Proposed Rules for Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) Nonattainment Areas in Howard, Hutchinson, and Navarro Counties

### Introduction

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the maximum level of SO<sub>2</sub> in the air to protect human health. The air quality in parts of Howard, Hutchinson, and Navarro Counties does not meet the EPA's standard for SO<sub>2</sub>. As a result, the TCEQ is proposing new rules to limit SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from specific sources that were determined to have the biggest impact on SO<sub>2</sub> levels in those areas. If the rules are adopted, they will be submitted to the EPA as part of Texas' attainment plan (known as a State Implementation Plan or SIP). Emission reductions from the proposed rules are included in proposed attainment plans for Howard County (Project No. 2021-010-SIP-NR), Hutchinson County (Project No. 2021-011-SIP-NR), and Navarro County (2021-012-SIP-NR) and show how the areas will meet the EPA's SO<sub>2</sub> standard by April 30, 2026, the deadline set by the EPA.

### Summary

The proposed rulemaking (Project No. 2021-035-112-AI) would add new rules in Subchapters E, F, and G of 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 112, Control of Air Pollution from Sulfur Compounds, to reduce SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from sources in Howard, Hutchinson, and Navarro Counties. The proposed rules include maximum emission limits and would require monitoring, recordkeeping, reporting, and testing to help ensure the emission limits are met. Compliance with the proposed emission limits may require installation of a new control device; changing the raw materials or fuels used; modifying a process; or changing maintenance, startup, and shutdown procedures. The sources subject to the proposed rules are at the Delek Big Spring Refinery and the Tokai Big Spring Carbon Black Plant in Howard County; the Chevron Phillips Chemical Borger Plant, the IACX Rock Creek Gas Plant, the Orion Borger Carbon Black Plant, the P66 Borger Refinery, and the Tokai Borger Carbon Black Plant in Hutchinson County; and the Arcosa Streetman Plant in Navarro County.

### Public Comment and Hearing Information

The TCEQ will offer three public hearings on these proposals. The first hearing will be offered in Big Spring on May 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. CDT in the Ballroom at Dora Roberts Community Center located at 100 Whipkey Drive. The second hearing will be offered in Borger on May 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. CDT in the City Council Room at Borger City Hall located at 600 N. Main St. The third hearing will be offered in Corsicana on May 23, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. CDT in the Cook Education Center at Navarro College located at 3100 West Collin Street. These hearings will be offered to receive public comments on the Chapter 112 rulemaking proposal (Project No. 2021-035-112-AI) and associated proposed attainment plans for Howard County (Project Number 2021-010-SIP-NR), Hutchinson County (Project Number 2021-011-SIP-NR), and Navarro County

(Project Number 2021-012-SIP-NR). The hearing will be conducted in English. Language interpretation services may be requested. For accommodation needs, contact Sandy Wong, Office of Legal Services at (512) 239-1802 or 1-800-RELAY-TX (TDD) as far in advance as possible.

The comment period for these proposed actions opens on April 15, 2022 and closes on June 2, 2022. Submit written comments through the *eComments* system at <https://www6.tceq.texas.gov/rules/ecomments/>. Comments must reference Rule Project Number **2021-035-112-AI** for the rules or Howard County SIP **Project Number 2021-010-SIP-NR**, Hutchinson County SIP **Project Number 2021-011-SIP-NR**, or Navarro County SIP **Project Number 2021-012-SIP-NR**.

The proposed rules can be found on the TCEQ's website at [https://www.tceq.texas.gov/rules/propose\\_adopt.html](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/rules/propose_adopt.html) and the proposed attainment plans can be found 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:

- Joseph Thomas, Rule Project Manager, (512) 239-3934 or [joseph.thomas@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:joseph.thomas@tceq.texas.gov)
- Mary Ann Cook, SIP Project Manager, (512) 239-6739 or [maryann.cook@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:maryann.cook@tceq.texas.gov)