

U.S. EPA FACT SHEET

Final Rule: Revisions to the Arizona Regional Haze Federal Implementation Plan; Cement Plant Reconsideration

November 4, 2016

Summary of Action:

EPA is revising the Arizona Regional Haze Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) for the Phoenix Cement Company (PCC) Clarkdale Plant and the CalPortland Cement (CPC) Rillito Plant. Specifically, the final rule replaces the control technology demonstration requirements for nitrogen oxides (NO_x) applicable to Kiln 4 at the Clarkdale Plant and Kiln 4 at the Rillito Plant with a series of revised recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

Background:

On September 3, 2014, the EPA promulgated a FIP (2014 FIP) addressing the requirements of the Regional Haze Rule and interstate visibility transport for the disapproved portions of Arizona's Regional Haze SIP. The FIP included NO_x emission limits for CPC and PCC achievable by installation of Selective Non-Catalytic Technology (SNCR) and required a control technology demonstration project for the SNCR system at each plant. The control technology demonstration project entailed the collection of data and preparation of a SNCR optimization protocol that was to be used to determine if a higher control efficiency would be achievable.

On November 3, 2014, CPC and PCC petitioned EPA for reconsideration of the control technology demonstration project requirements and for a partial stay of the 2014 FIP. We granted reconsideration of the control technology demonstration project requirements in January 2015 and also granted a stay from August 15, 2016 to November 14, 2016.

On June 30, 2016, we proposed to revise the 2014 FIP to replace the control technology demonstration project requirements with a series of record-keeping and reporting requirements at each plant. Today's action finalizes our proposal and responds to comments we received on the proposal.

Our final rule revising the 2014 FIP will not interfere with any applicable requirement concerning attainment, reasonable further progress, or any other applicable requirement of the CAA, because the FIP revision will not alter the amount or timing of emission reductions from CPC or PCC.

The Clean Air Act (CAA) establishes as a national goal the prevention of any future and the remedying of any existing man-made impairment of visibility in 156 national parks and wilderness areas designated as Class I areas. The 2014 FIP, as revised by today's action, ensures Arizona will make reasonable progress towards that Clean Air Act goal.

Next Steps:

The Federal Register notice will be published in approximately 2 to 3 weeks. The revision to the FIP will become effective 30 days after the date of publication in the Federal Register.

More Information: <https://www3.epa.gov/region9/air/az/haze/index.html>