

U.S. EPA FACT SHEET

Direct Final and Proposed Determination of Attainment of the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Mariposa County, California

December 2, 2016

Summary

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking direct final action to determine that the Mariposa County, California ozone nonattainment area (NAA) has attained the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).
- Today's action is based upon complete, quality-assured and certified ambient air quality monitoring data from 2013-2015 showing that the Mariposa County NAA attained the 2008 ozone NAAQS.

Background

- In 2008, we tightened the 8-hour ozone standards ("2008 ozone standards") to the level of 0.075 parts per million (ppm). The 2008 ozone primary and secondary standards are met at an ambient air quality monitoring site when the 3-year average of the annual fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration ("design value") is less than or equal to 0.075 ppm.
- The original attainment date for the 2008 ozone standards for this Marginal ozone NAA was as expeditious as practicable but not later than July 20, 2015.
- In May 2016, the EPA determined that the Mariposa County NAA failed to attain the 2008 ozone standards by the applicable attainment date of July 20, 2015, and reclassified the area to the next higher classification, i.e., to "Moderate." The attainment date for areas classified as Moderate nonattainment for the 2008 ozone NAAQS is as expeditious as practicable but not later than July 20, 2018.
- A determination of whether an area's air quality meets the 2008 ozone NAAQS is generally based upon three consecutive calendar years of complete, quality-assured data measured at established State and Local Air Monitoring Stations (SLAMS) in the NAA.
- When the design value is less than or equal to 0.075 ppm at each monitoring site within the area, then the area is meeting the NAAQS.
- The data completeness requirement is met when the 3-year average percent of days with valid monitoring data is at least 90 percent, and no single year has less than 75 percent data completeness.
- This determination suspends any unfulfilled obligations to submit revisions to the state implementation plan (SIP) related to attainment of the 2008 ozone standards for the Mariposa County NAA for as long as the area continues to meet those standards.

- This determination of attainment does not constitute a redesignation to attainment. Redesignations to attainment require states to meet additional statutory criteria, including EPA's approval of a SIP revision demonstrating maintenance of the standards for 10 years after redesignation.
- The designation status of the Mariposa County area will remain Moderate nonattainment for the 2008 ozone NAAQS until the EPA determines that the area meets the Clean Air Act requirements for redesignation to attainment.

Next Steps

- Today's action will be published in the Federal Register in approximately two weeks.
- In conjunction with this direct final action, we will publish a proposed rule with this same determination.
- This rule will be effective 60 days after date of publication in the Federal Register unless we receive adverse comments by 30 days after date of publication.
- If we receive adverse comments, we will publish a timely withdrawal in the Federal Register to notify the public that this direct final rule will not take effect, and we will address the comments in a subsequent final action based on the proposal.

For More Information: <https://www3.epa.gov/region9/air/actions/cal-add/index.html>

