

August 25, 2020

Informational Public Workshop to Discuss the California Air Resources Board's Regional Haze State Implementation Plan

This is a remote-only meeting.

California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff invite you to participate in a virtual, public workshop to discuss development of the 2021 Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP or Plan). Staff will provide an overview of haze, the causes of regional haze in California, and how this Plan will reduce non-natural emission contributions to regional haze in order to protect and improve visibility in the twenty-nine federal Class I Areas throughout the State. Also, staff will go over the specific SIP requirements for this Regional Haze Plan. After the presentation, there will be time for questions and input from the public.

Workshop Details

DATE: September 17, 2020

TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

LOCATION Virtual Webinar

REGISTER https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7092196754259635212

Staff's presentation and any additional webinar-related documents will be available before the workshop.

Background

In 1999, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) published the Regional Haze Rule (Rule) in order to protect visibility in national parks and other scenic federal lands. The Rule directs every state to prepare long-term strategies and

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set interim goals every ten years in SIPs that show what actions will be undertaken to protect and improve visibility in these federal Class I Areas nationwide. These SIPs focus on reducing regional haze caused by man-made pollution. This pollution scatters and absorbs light thereby impairing visibility in parks and other wilderness areas. Most of these Class I Areas are located in the western United States.

California is a member of the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) and worked with fifteen other western states, Federal Land Management agencies (FLMs), the U.S. EPA, and Tribal representatives to assess regional progress in improving visibility through particle pollution monitoring, and to identify causes of haze through regional modeling. With the information provided by this partnership as well as review of potential reductions from emissions controls, CARB is working to establish reasonable progress goals for California for 2028. California's Regional Haze Plan is due to U.S. EPA by July 31, 2021.

This workshop is a stepping stone towards developing California's Plan and is an important opportunity for the public to learn about the SIP development process and to provide input. We encourage your participation and feedback.

Contact:

If you have questions about this public workshop, please contact Alyssa Rhodes, Air Pollution Specialist. For more information: https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/california-state-implementation-plans/statewide-efforts/regional-haze?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael T. Benjamin, Chief

Air Quality Planning and Science Division

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cc: Sylvia Vanderspek

Air Quality Planning and Science Division

Webster Tasat

Central Valley Air Quality Planning Section

Christine Suarez-Murias

Central Valley Air Quality Planning Section

Alyssa Rhodes

South Coast Air Quality Planning Section