

**State of California  
Air Resources Board  
Board Item Summary**

**Item # 23-3-1: Public Meeting to Consider the Ozone Attainment Plan for Western Nevada County**

**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopt the Ozone Attainment Plan for Western Nevada County: State Implementation Plan for the 2015 70 parts per billion (ppb) Ozone Standard (2023 Plan) developed by the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District (District). If adopted, CARB will submit the 2023 Plan to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for inclusion in the California State Implementation Plan (SIP).

**Discussion:**

The federal Clean Air Act (Act) establishes planning requirements for areas that exceed the health-based National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS or standard). States with areas that exceed the NAAQS must develop and implement a SIP that demonstrates attainment of the standard by a specified date and meets other requirements of the Act. In 2015, U.S. EPA strengthened the 8-hour ozone standard from 75 parts per billion (ppb) to 70 ppb (70 ppb ozone standard). On August 3, 2018, U.S. EPA designated Western Nevada County as a Moderate nonattainment area for the 70-ppb ozone standard. Per a request from the District and the State, in 2021 U.S. EPA classified Western Nevada County as a Serious nonattainment area for the 70-ppb ozone standard. Under the Act and applicable guidance, the District must develop a SIP that addresses the Serious area requirements including demonstrating attainment by the 2026 ozone season. The District prepared the 2023 Plan to address these requirements and approved it on February 27, 2023.

**Summary and Impacts:**

The 2023 Plan addresses the Serious area requirements for Western Nevada County for the 70 ppb ozone standard including emissions inventories, attainment demonstration, reasonable further progress demonstration and associated motor vehicle emissions budgets, and contingency measures. Additional requirements as applicable under the 70 ppb ozone standard have already been addressed through separate submittals.

As detailed in the CARB Staff Report, CARB staff has reviewed the 2023 Plan and has concluded it meets the requirements of the Act for the 70 ppb ozone standard. If adopted, CARB will submit the 2023 Plan to the U.S. EPA for inclusion in the California SIP.