

## UPDATED INFORMATIVE DIGEST

**Sections Affected:** Amendments to title 17, California Code of Regulations (CCR), sections 60201 and 60210.

**Summary:** Pursuant to section 39606 of the Health and Safety Code (H&SC), the California Air Resources Board (Board or ARB) is charged with the responsibility of adopting standards of ambient air quality for each air basin in consideration of public health, safety, and welfare. The Board has adopted State ambient air quality standards (State standards) for ten pollutants, set forth in CCR, title 17, section 70200. The California Clean Air Act in H&SC section 39607(e) requires the Board to establish and periodically review designation criteria which provide the basis for designating areas of California as attainment, nonattainment, nonattainment-transitional, or unclassified with respect to the State standards.

The Board originally adopted designation criteria in 1989 and has modified them several times since then, the last time in March 2010. The designation criteria are set forth in CCR, title 17, sections 70300 through 70306, and appendices 1 through 3, thereof. Based on these designation criteria, the California Clean Air Act in H&SC section 39608 further requires ARB to establish and annually review area designations for State standards. During the annual review, ARB determines whether changes to the existing area designations are warranted. The designation criteria give the Executive Officer, or his or her delegate, the authority to designate areas as attainment, nonattainment, or unclassified for the State standards and hold a public hearing, if requested, to review any proposed changes to the State standards.

The Board makes area designations for ten pollutants: ozone, suspended particulate matter (PM10), fine suspended particulate matter (PM2.5), carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, sulfates, lead, hydrogen sulfide, and visibility reducing particles. The area designations comprise CCR, title 17, sections 60200 through 60210.

The ARB staff reviewed the area designations based on air quality data from 2008 through 2010. Based on this review, the Executive Officer, as delegated by the Board, adopted three amendments, which changed the area designations for fine particulate matter (PM2.5); the North Coast Air Basin, the Northeast Plateau Air Basin, and Ventura County in the South Central Coast Air Basin were redesignated as attainment. The Executive Officer also amended the area designation regulations to reflect the change in designation for ozone from nonattainment to nonattainment-transitional for Glenn County, Yolo County, and the Sacramento Valley Air Basin portion of Solano County. The ozone changes took effect by operation of law under the provisions of H&SC section 40925.5.

The Executive Officer adopted amendments to the area designation regulations to reflect these changes.

The staff proposal was the same as that described in the Initial Statement of Reasons for Proposed Rulemaking (Staff Report) released on July 20, 2012. One comment was received during the public comment period, but was not responsive to the amendments in this rulemaking and no response was necessary. There were no requests to hold a public hearing.