Regional Haze

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Ongoing Regional Haze Work

• Resolve remaining first implementation period actions, following a SIP path where possible.

• Support states for the second and future implementation periods.
Status of Actions from the First Implementation Period
Key Principles for the Second Implementation Period

- EPA is committed to working to support states for the second planning period.

- Key principles for implementation of the second planning period include:
  - Implementing the program with states in the lead (cooperative federalism).
  - Reducing state planning burdens and supporting states in complying with the CAA.
  - Leveraging emission reductions achieved through other CAA programs that will further improve visibility in protected areas.
  - Ensuring that we are on a path that enables compliance with the Clean Air Act and improved visibility in Class I areas.
EPA’s Roadmap for the Second Planning Period

• On September 11, 2018, Acting Administrator Wheeler signed the Regional Haze Reform Roadmap.
• This roadmap outlines the implementation tools and guidance products that EPA will release over the next year to help states during their 2021 SIP development.
• Timeline for implementation tools outlined in the roadmap:
  ▪ Fall 2018 – Final recommendations on selecting the 20% most impaired days, including methods for adjusting the glidepath (Section 5 of 2016 Draft Guidance).
  ▪ Spring 2019 – Updated, as necessary, natural visibility conditions estimates.
  ▪ Spring/Summer 2019 – Updated 2028 visibility modeling (incl. estimates of US and international source contributions for Class I Areas).
  ▪ Spring 2019 – Final guidance on regional haze SIP development will focus on topics such as:
    • Additional information and context regarding screening sources before in-depth analysis, including relevance of previous decisions to adopt emission controls to meet other CAA requirements.
    • Consideration of visibility benefits along with the four statutory factors.
• Rulemaking: EPA will continue to explore further regulatory changes to impact future planning periods.
2017 Regional Haze Rule

- **Rule revisions were finalized on January 10, 2017 (82 FR 3078):**
  - Petitions for review were filed in the D.C. Circuit. EPA also received petitions for reconsideration.
  - The D.C. Circuit litigation is currently on hold.
  - On January 17, 2018, EPA announced its intention to revisit certain aspects of the 2017 rule revisions, including FLM consultation and RAVI provisions.
  - The September 2018 roadmap notes that we are continuing to explore further regulatory changes to impact future planning periods.
- 2017 Regional Haze Revisions remain in effect:
  - SIPs due July 31, 2021
  - 40 CFR Part 51.308(f) details the requirements for these SIPs
Key Similarities and Differences: 1st and 2nd Regional Haze Implementation Periods

- **Similarities: 1st period and 2nd period**
  - There are no bright lines in the rule for what is reasonable for states to include in their long-term strategies (LTS) for making reasonable progress.
  - EPA maintained the approach to SIP development (develop LTS, then project RPG(s)).

- **Differences: 1st period vs. 2nd period**
  - Focus going forward is on reasonable progress, as opposed to BART.
  - Visibility benefits are one of the five factors for BART in the first period, but are not one of the four statutory factors for reasonable progress.
    - The RHR does not prohibit consideration of visibility benefits, however.
  - Unlike the 2005 BART Guidelines Rule (which described how to quantify the five statutory factors for BART in the first period), the RHR does not dictate any particular analytical methodology for evaluating the reasonable progress factors and instead provides a process for states to follow in developing approvable submissions.
  - Tracking metric uses anthropogenic impairment (vs. worst visibility).
  - 51.308(f) is the applicable regulation, rather than 51.308(d).