

2015 Ozone Standard Update

Michigan Transportation Planning Association Meeting

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On October 1, 2015, EPA set the primary and secondary national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for ground-level ozone at 70 parts per billion (or 0.070 parts per million).

Anticipated Timeline for 2015 Ozone NAAQS Designation Process:

- February 2016: MDEQ releases **quality-assured monitor data for 2013 – 2015**.
 - Areas will meet the standard if the 4th highest daily maximum 8-hour ozone concentration per year, averaged over three years, is equal to or less than 70 ppb.
 - Of the 30 monitor sites in Michigan, **five monitors exceed** the ozone NAAQS standard. These monitors are:
 - Holland monitor in Allegan County
 - Muskegon monitor in Muskegon County
 - Coloma monitor in Berrien County
 - Port Huron monitor in St. Clair County
 - New Haven monitor in Macomb County
- February 25, 2016: **EPA releases guidance document** on factors for states to consider in evaluating designations. Monitoring data is the first factor used in making boundary recommendations, then other factors are used to determine nearby areas contributing to the violation. MDEQ will be providing further information on this process at a later meeting.
- March 23, 2016: EPA will **release a mapping tool** to assist in defining non-attainment areas.
- By October 1, 2016: Michigan **DEQ** (and tribes where applicable) **will recommend designations** and boundaries for areas to EPA. MDEQ will base its decision on monitoring data from 2013 through 2015. All areas in the state will be categorized as attainment, non-attainment or unclassifiable.
- By June 2, 2017: **EPA will respond to states** and tribes initial recommendations and identify where EPA intends to modify state recommendations.
- By August 7, 2017: **States can submit additional information** to respond to EPA's modifications.
- By October 1, 2017: **EPA will issue final area designations with classifications**, based on air quality data for years 2014 through 2016 (Note: this is different than the data MDEQ used in its recommendations).

- By October 1, 2018: **Areas designated nonattainment must have formed IAWGs, conducted conformity analysis, and demonstrated conformity on LRP.** MPOs must demonstrate conformity of LRP and TIP within one year of the effective date of nonattainment area designation.
 - Transition from 5 to 4 year LRP cycle: If an area can demonstrate conformity on their existing plan and **can meet all other requirements**, the conformity demonstration will be good for the remaining life of original plan, if less than four years, or 4 years after the conformity determination, whichever comes first. The next LRP would have only a four-year life. (Bullet based on guidance from the 2008 ozone standard, this is not anticipated to change, but could with rulemaking and specific guidance for the 2015 Ozone Standard).
- Soon after designation, MPOs in newly designated nonattainment areas will review and sign the Transportation Conformity State Implementation Plan MOA. This document describes the transportation conformity consultation process, roles, responsibilities, and conflict resolution procedures.

Information provided here highlights key activities and dates. Updates will be provided as they become available.

Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator (MOVES):

EPA released, on November 2015, a new minor reversion of MOVES2014, designated MOVES2014a, this is not considered a new model for SIP and transportation conformity purposes.

MOVES2014/a will be required to be used after October 7, 2016 for conformity analysis and SIPs.

MOVES2014a requires a few different data inputs and data formatting, thus the spreadsheet MDOT developed to input data in MOVES will be modified and adjusted to work with MOVES2014a.