

the expiration of the period; and delay in transfer of the appellate record to the Board which precluded timely action with respect to these matters. Such motions must be in writing and must include the name of the veteran; the name of the claimant or appellant if other than the veteran (e.g., a veteran's survivor, a guardian, or a fiduciary appointed to receive VA benefits on an individual's behalf); the applicable Department of Veterans Affairs file number; and an explanation of why the request for a change in representation, the request for a personal hearing, or the submission of additional evidence could not be accomplished in a timely manner. Such motions must be filed at the following address: Director, Administrative Service (014), Board of Veterans' Appeals, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Depending upon the ruling on the motion, action will be taken as follows:

(i) *Good cause not shown.* If good cause is not shown, the request for a change in representation, the request for a personal hearing, or the additional evidence submitted will be referred to the agency of original jurisdiction upon completion of the Board's action on the pending appeal without action by the Board concerning the request or additional evidence. Any personal hearing granted as a result of a request so referred or any additional evidence so referred may be treated by that agency as the basis for a reopened claim, if appropriate. If the Board denied a benefit sought in the pending appeal and any evidence so referred which was received prior to the date of the Board's decision, or testimony presented at a hearing resulting from a request for a hearing so referred, together with the evidence already of record, is subsequently found to be the basis of an allowance of that benefit, the effective date of the award will be the same as if the benefit had been granted by the Board as a result of the appeal which was pending at the time that the hearing request or additional evidence was received.

(ii) *Good cause shown.* If good cause is shown, the request for a change in representation or for a personal hearing will be honored. Any pertinent evidence submitted by the appellant or representative will be accepted, subject to the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section if a simultaneously contested claim is involved.

(2) *If the Board obtains evidence or considers law not considered by the agency of original jurisdiction.* The motion described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section is not required to submit evidence in response to the notice

described in paragraph (b) or (c) of Rule 903 (paragraph (b) or (c) of § 20.903 of this part).

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(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7104, 7105, 7105A).

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[PA-4105b; FRL-7021-5]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; VOC and NO_x RACT Determinations for Twenty-Five Individual Sources

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve revisions to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's State Implementation Plan (SIP). The revisions establish and require reasonably available control technology (RACT) for twenty-five major sources of volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) located in Pennsylvania. In the Final Rules section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving these SIP revisions as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial submittal and anticipates no adverse comments. If no adverse comments are received in response to this action, no further activity is contemplated. If EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

DATES: Written comments must be received by September 5, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this action should be addressed to David L. Arnold, Chief, Air Quality Planning & Information Services Branch, Air Protection Division, Mailcode 3AP21, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. Copies of the documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Air Protection Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street,

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103; and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Air Quality Control, P.O. Box 8468, 400 Market Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Betty Harris at (215) 814-2168 or via e-mail at harris.betty@epa.gov. While information may be requested via e-mail, any comments must be submitted, in writing, as indicated above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For further information, please see the information provided in the direct final action, with the same title, that is located in the "Rules and Regulations" section of this **Federal Register** publication.

Dated: July 19, 2001.

Thomas C. Voltaggio,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region III.

[FR Doc. 01-19317 Filed 8-3-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[MI76-01-7285b; FRL-7023-3]

Approval and Promulgation of Maintenance Plan Revisions; Michigan

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve a March 22, 2001, request from Michigan for a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision of the Muskegon County, Michigan ozone maintenance plan. The maintenance plan revision allocates a portion of the safety margin to the transportation conformity Mobile Vehicle Emissions Budget (MVEB) for the year 2010. EPA is approving the allocation of 2.14 tons per day of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) and 3.27 tons/day of Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x) to the area's 2010 MVEB. This allocation will still maintain the total emissions for the area below the attainment level required by the transportation conformity regulations. In the Final Rules section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving the State's SIP revision, as a direct final rule without prior proposal, because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial revision and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If we receive no adverse comments in response to that direct final rule we

plan to take no further action in relation to this proposed rule. If we receive written adverse comments which we have not addressed, we will withdraw the direct final rule and address all public comments received in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. The EPA will not institute a second comment period on this action.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before September 5, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to: Carlton Nash, Chief, Regulation Development Section, Air Programs Branch, (AR-18J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, 60604. You may inspect copies of the documents relevant to this action during normal business hours at the following location:

Regulation Development Section, Air Programs Branch, (AR-18J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, 60604.

Please contact Michael G. Leslie at (312) 353-6680 before visiting the Region 5 office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael G. Leslie, Environmental Engineer, Regulation Development Section, Air Programs Branch (AR-18J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604, (312) 353-6680.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Where Can I Find More Information About This Proposal and the Corresponding Direct Final Rule?

For additional information see the direct final rule published in the rules section of this **Federal Register**.

Dated: July 23, 2001.

David Ullrich,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 5.
[FR Doc. 01-19459 Filed 8-3-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[MD05771/98/115-3074; FRL-7025-4]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Rate of Progress Plans and Contingency Measures for the Baltimore Ozone Nonattainment Area

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions submitted by the State of Maryland. These revisions establish the three percent per year emission reduction rate-of-progress (ROP) requirement for the period from 1996 through 2005 for the Baltimore severe ozone nonattainment area (the Baltimore area). In conjunction with the ROP plans for Baltimore, EPA is also proposing to approve the plans' contingency measures for failure to meet ROP. EPA is approving these revisions in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before September 5, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be mailed to David L. Arnold, Chief, Air Quality Planning and Information Services Branch, Mailcode 3AP21, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. Copies of the documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Air Protection Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103 and the Maryland Department of the Environment, 2500 Broening Highway, Baltimore, Maryland, 21224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristeen Gaffney, (215) 814-2092, or by e-mail at gaffney.kristeen@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Clean Air Act Requirements

The Clean Air Act (the Act) requires that for certain ozone nonattainment areas, states are to submit plans demonstrating a reduction in volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions of at least three percent per year, grouped in consecutive three year periods, through the area's designated attainment date. This is known as the rate-of-progress requirement of the Act. The first ROP requirement covers the period 1990-1996 and is commonly known as the 15 Percent Plan. Subsequent ROP milestone years are grouped in three year intervals beginning after 1996 (*i.e.*, ROP milestone years for Baltimore are 1999, 2002, 2005). Section 182(c)(2)(C) of the Act allows states to substitute nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emission reductions for VOC emission reductions in post 1996 ROP plans. To qualify for SIP credit in ROP plans, emission reduction measures, whether mandatory under the Act or adopted at the state's

discretion, must ensure real, permanent and enforceable emission reductions.

Under the Act, the post 1996 ROP plans were due by November 15, 1994. However, on March 2, 1995, EPA issued a policy memorandum establishing an alternative approach for meeting the attainment demonstration and post 1996 ROP requirements of the Act. This policy memorandum established a phased approach for the submittal of the attainment demonstration. In the first phase (the Phase I plan), states were to submit a plan with specific control measures demonstrating at least the first 9 percent ROP reduction for 1999; interim assumptions or modeling about ozone transport; and enforceable commitments to:

- (1) Participate in a consultative process to address regional transport;
- (2) Adopt additional control measures as necessary to attain the ozone national ambient air quality standard; and
- (3) Identify any reductions that are needed from upwind areas for the area to meet the ozone standard.

In the second phase of this approach (the Phase II plan), states were to submit modeling and plans to show attainment through local and regional controls. For severe ozone nonattainment areas such as Baltimore, the Phase II plan was also to identify the measures needed to demonstrate ROP through the 2005 attainment year. States were to phase-in adoption of rules and implement measures to meet ROP beginning in the period immediately following 1999 and provide for timely implementation of progress requirements.

Section 172(c)(9) of the Act requires moderate and above ozone nonattainment areas to adopt contingency measures to be implemented should the area fail to achieve ROP or to attain by its attainment date. In addition, section 182(c)(9) of the Act requires serious and above areas to adopt contingency measures which would be implemented if the area fails to meet any applicable milestone. States are required to develop contingency measures in the event an area fails to meet ROP in a given milestone year.

Under EPA's transportation conformity rule, like an attainment plan, an ROP plan is referred to as a control strategy SIP (62 FR 43779). A control strategy SIP identifies and establishes the motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEBs) to which an area's transportation improvement program and long range transportation plan must conform. Conformity to a control strategy SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing