

data in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the Department can properly assess the impact of collection requirements on respondents.

This final priority contains information collection requirements that are approved by OMB under the National Interpreter Education program 1820-0018; this final priority does not affect the currently approved data collection.

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563

Regulatory Impact Analysis

Under Executive Order 12866, the Secretary must determine whether this regulatory action is “significant” and, therefore, subject to the requirements of the Executive order and subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 defines a “significant regulatory action” as an action likely to result in a rule that may—

(1) Have an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more, or adversely affect a sector of the economy, productivity, competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments or communities in a material way (also referred to as an “economically significant” rule);

(2) Create serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency;

(3) Materially alter the budgetary impacts of entitlement grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof; or

(4) Raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President’s priorities, or the principles stated in the Executive order.

This final regulatory action is not a significant regulatory action subject to review by OMB under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866.

We have also reviewed this final regulatory action under Executive Order 13563, which supplements and explicitly reaffirms the principles, structures, and definitions governing regulatory review established in Executive Order 12866. To the extent permitted by law, Executive Order 13563 requires that an agency—

(1) Propose or adopt regulations only upon a reasoned determination that their benefits justify their costs (recognizing that some benefits and costs are difficult to quantify);

(2) Tailor its regulations to impose the least burden on society, consistent with obtaining regulatory objectives and taking into account—among other things

and to the extent practicable—the costs of cumulative regulations;

(3) In choosing among alternative regulatory approaches, select those approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety, and other advantages; distributive impacts; and equity);

(4) To the extent feasible, specify performance objectives, rather than the behavior or manner of compliance a regulated entity must adopt; and

(5) Identify and assess available alternatives to direct regulation, including economic incentives—such as user fees or marketable permits—to encourage the desired behavior, or provide information that enables the public to make choices.

Executive Order 13563 also requires an agency “to use the best available techniques to quantify anticipated present and future benefits and costs as accurately as possible.” The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB has emphasized that these techniques may include “identifying changing future compliance costs that might result from technological innovation or anticipated behavioral changes.”

We are issuing this final priority only on a reasoned determination that its benefits justify its costs. In choosing among alternative regulatory approaches, we selected those approaches that maximize net benefits. Based on the analysis that follows, the Department believes that this regulatory action is consistent with the principles in Executive Order 13563.

We also have determined that this regulatory action does not unduly interfere with State, local, and tribal governments in the exercise of their governmental functions.

In accordance with both Executive orders, the Department has assessed the potential costs and benefits, both quantitative and qualitative, of this regulatory action. The potential costs are those resulting from statutory requirements and those we have determined as necessary for administering the Department’s programs and activities.

Through this priority, training will be provided to working interpreters for English-ASL interpreter training in specialty areas. These activities will help interpreters to more effectively meet the communication needs of individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and individuals who are Deaf-blind. The training ultimately will improve the quality of VR services and the competitive integrated employment outcomes achieved by individuals with

disabilities. This priority will promote the efficient and effective use of Federal funds.

Intergovernmental Review: This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and strengthened federalism. The Executive order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document provides early notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site, you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated: August 9, 2016.

Sue Swenson,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 2016-19273 Filed 8-11-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0959; FRL-9948-11-Region 9]

Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is finalizing a partial approval and partial disapproval of revisions to the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD or District) portion of the California State Implementation Plan (SIP). This action was proposed in the **Federal Register** on January 15, 2016 and concerns the District’s demonstration regarding Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) requirements for the 1997 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). Under authority of the Clean Air Act (CAA or the Act), this action directs California to correct RACT deficiencies in the SMAQMD portion of the California SIP.

DATES: This rule is effective on September 30, 2016.

ADDRESSES: The EPA has established docket number ¹ EPA–R09–OAR–2012–0959 for this action. Generally, documents in the docket for this action are available electronically at www.regulations.gov or in hard copy at EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, California 94015–3901. While all documents in the docket are listed at www.regulations.gov, some information may be publicly available only at the hard copy location (*e.g.*, copyrighted material, large maps), and some may not be publicly available in either location (*e.g.*, Confidential Business Information (CBI)). To inspect the hard copy materials, please schedule an appointment during normal business

hours with the contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Shears, EPA Region IX, (213) 244–1810, shears.james@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Throughout this document, “we,” “us” and “our” refer to the EPA.

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- III. Final Action and CAA Consequences
- IV. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

I. Proposed Action

On January 15, 2016 (81 FR 2136), the EPA proposed to partially approve and partially disapprove the following documents that were submitted for incorporation into the California SIP:

Local agency	Document	Adopted	Submitted
SMAQMD	Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) as Applicable to the 8-hour Ozone Standard, dated October 26, 2006 (“2006 RACT SIP”).	10/26/06	7/11/07
SMAQMD	Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Update as Applicable to the 8-Hour Ozone Standard, dated October 23, 2008 (“Updated RACT SIP”).	10/23/08	1/21/09

We proposed to approve the 2006 RACT SIP and Updated RACT SIP with the exception of Rule 455, Pharmaceutical Manufacturing, and the municipal waste landfill category as satisfying the RACT requirements of CAA section 182(b)(2) and (f).

Also under CAA section 110(k)(3), we proposed to disapprove those elements of the 2006 RACT SIP and Updated RACT SIP that pertain to Rule 455 and the municipal waste landfill category because we found that these elements did not meet all of the applicable CAA requirements. In particular, we found that Rule 455, Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing, (amended 11/29/83 and 9/5/96) lacks test methods, recordkeeping, and monitoring requirements that are necessary to support enforcement of the rule. See CAA section 110(a). We also found that the California SIP did not contain any provisions to implement RACT for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) at the Kiefer landfill, which is a major source of VOCs located within the Sacramento Metro area.

SMAQMD’s submittal also included a number of negative declarations. CAA Sections 182(b)(2) and (f) require that SIPs for ozone nonattainment areas classified as moderate or above implement RACT for any source covered by a Control Techniques Guidelines (CTG) document and any

major stationary source of VOCs or nitrogen oxides (NO_x). If an ozone nonattainment area does not have any stationary sources covered by a particular CTG, then the area may submit a negative declaration certifying that there are no such sources in the relevant nonattainment area in lieu of adopting RACT requirements for that category. We proposed approval of SMAQMD’s negative declarations because we determined that they complied with relevant CAA requirements.

Our proposed action contains more information on the basis for this rulemaking and on our evaluation of the 2006 RACT SIP and Updated RACT SIP.

II. Public Comments and EPA Responses

The EPA’s proposed action provided a 30-day public comment period. During this period, we received no comments.

III. Final Action and CAA Consequences

A. Final Action

For the reasons provided in our January 15, 2016 proposed rule, the EPA is partially approving and partially disapproving SMAQMD’s 2006 RACT SIP and Updated RACT SIP under CAA section 110(k)(3). In particular, we are approving all elements of the 2006 RACT SIP and Updated RACT SIP, with

the exception of elements pertaining to Rule 455, Pharmaceutical Manufacturing, and the municipal waste landfill category, as satisfying the RACT requirements of CAA section 182(b)(2) and (f). We are disapproving those elements of the 2006 RACT SIP and Updated RACT SIP that pertain to Rule 455 and the municipal waste landfill category because we have determined that they do not meet all of the applicable CAA requirements.

B. CAA Consequences of Final Partial Disapproval

The EPA is committed to working with the District and CARB to resolve the identified RACT deficiencies. We note that SMAQMD will not be required to submit a revised CAA section 182 RACT SIP demonstration for the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS if it submits for SIP approval, rules and/or permit provisions that implement RACT for the pharmaceutical manufacturing source category, as well as RACT for VOCs for the Kiefer landfill, and the EPA fully approves them into the SIP. On April 28, 2016, SMAQMD repealed Rule 455 and adopted amendments to Rule 464, Organic Chemical Manufacturing Operations to incorporate the pharmaceutical manufacturing requirements from Rule 455 along with other improvements to implement RACT into Rule 464. SMAQMD plans,

¹ Our proposal indicated that the docket number for this action was EPA–R09–2012–959. This final

action corrects the docket number to “0959” to conform to numbering convention.

in July 2016, to adopt the relevant portions of the Kiefer landfill permit into the SIP to implement RACT.

Because we are finalizing a partial disapproval of the 2006 RACT SIP and Updated RACT SIP, the EPA must promulgate a federal implementation plan (FIP) under section 110(c) unless we approve subsequent SIP revisions that correct the rule deficiencies within 24 months of the effective date of this action. In addition, sanctions will be imposed under CAA section 179 and 40 CFR 52.31, unless the EPA approves subsequent SIP revisions that correct the rule deficiencies or issues an interim final determination that submitted revisions correct the deficiencies within 18 months of the effective date of this action.

IV. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Additional information about these statutes and Executive Orders can be found at <http://www2.epa.gov/laws-regulations/laws-and-executive-orders>.

A. Executive Order 12866: Regulatory Planning and Review and Executive Order 13563: Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review

This action is not a significant regulatory action and was therefore not submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review.

B. Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)

This action does not impose an information collection burden under the PRA because this action does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA)

I certify that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the RFA. This action will not impose any requirements on small entities beyond those imposed by state law.

D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA)

This action does not contain any unfunded mandate as described in UMRA, 2 U.S.C. 1531–1538, and does not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. This action does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. Accordingly, no additional costs to State, local, or tribal governments, or to the private sector, will result from this action.

E. Executive Order 13132: Federalism

This action does not have federalism implications. It will not have substantial direct effects on the states, on the relationship between the national government and the states, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

F. Executive Order 13175: Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

This action does not have tribal implications, as specified in Executive Order 13175, because the SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where the EPA or an Indian tribe has demonstrated that a tribe has jurisdiction, and will not impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law. Thus, Executive Order 13175 does not apply to this action.

G. Executive Order 13045: Protection of Children From Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks

The EPA interprets Executive Order 13045 as applying only to those regulatory actions that concern environmental health or safety risks that the EPA has reason to believe may disproportionately affect children, per the definition of “covered regulatory action” in section 2–202 of the Executive Order. This action is not subject to Executive Order 13045 because it does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law.

H. Executive Order 13211: Actions That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use

This action is not subject to Executive Order 13211, because it is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.

I. National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA)

Section 12(d) of the NTTAA directs the EPA to use voluntary consensus standards in its regulatory activities unless to do so would be inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical. The EPA believes that this action is not subject to the requirements of section 12(d) of the NTTAA because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the CAA.

J. Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Population

The EPA lacks the discretionary authority to address environmental justice in this rulemaking.

K. Congressional Review Act (CRA)

This action is subject to the CRA, and the EPA will submit a rule report to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. This action is not a “major rule” as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

L. Petitions for Judicial Review

Under CAA section 307(b)(1), petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by October 11, 2016. Filing a petition for reconsideration by the Administrator of this final rule does not affect the finality of this rule for the purposes of judicial review nor does it extend the time within which a petition for judicial review may be filed, and shall not postpone the effectiveness of such rule or action. This action may not be challenged later in proceedings to enforce its requirements (see section 307(b)(2)).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Volatile organic compounds.

Dated: May 19, 2016.

Alexis Strauss,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region IX.

Part 52, Chapter I, Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 52—APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

■ 1. The authority citation for Part 52 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Subpart F—California

■ 2. Section 52.220 is amended by adding paragraphs (c)(382)(ii)(C) and (c)(475) to read as follows:

§ 52.220 Identification of plan—in part.

* * * * *

(c) * * *
(382) * * *
(ii) * * *

(C) Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District.

(1) Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) as Applicable to the 8-Hour Ozone Standard, dated October 26, 2006, as adopted October 26, 2006, excluding the RACT determinations for:

(i) Pharmaceutical Products Manufacturing Source Category; and

(ii) Kiefer Landfill (RACT for volatile organic compounds).

* * * * *

(475) A new plan for the following AQMD was submitted January 21, 2009 by the Governor's designee.

(i) [Reserved]
(ii) Additional Material.
(A) Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District.

(1) Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Update as Applicable to the 8-Hour Ozone Standard, dated October 23, 2008, adopted October 23, 2008.

* * * * *

■ 3. Section 52.222 is amended by adding paragraph (a)(2)(iv) to read as follows:

§ 52.222 Negative declarations.

(a) * * *

(2) * * *

(iv) *Negative declarations for Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District.*

CTG Source category	Negative declaration—CTG reference document	Submitted 7/11/07, adopted 10/26/06	Updated submitted 1/21/09, adopted 10/23/08
Aerospace Coating	EPA-453/R-97-004 and 59 FR 29216 (6/06/94)—Control of Volatile Organic Compound Emissions from Coating Operations at Aerospace Manufacturing and Rework Operations.	.....	X
Automobile Coating	EPA-450/2-77-008—Control of Volatile Organic Emissions from Existing Stationary Sources, Volume II: Surface Coating of Cans, Coils, Paper, Fabrics, Automobiles, and Light-Duty Trucks.	X	.....
Dry Cleaning (Petroleum Solvent) ...	EPA-450/3-82-009—Control of Volatile Organic Compound Emissions from Large Petroleum Dry Cleaners.	X	.....
Graphic Arts (Rotogravure)	EPA-450/2-78-033—Control of Volatile Organic Emissions from Existing Stationary Sources, Volume VIII: Graphic Arts—Rotogravure and Flexography.	.....	X
Large Appliance Coating	EPA-450/2-77-034—Control of Volatile Organic Emissions from Existing Stationary Sources, Volume V: Surface Coating of Large Appliances.	X	.....
Large Appliance Coating	EPA-453/R-07-004—Control Techniques Guidelines for Large Appliance Coatings.	.....	X
Magnetic Wire Coating	EPA-450/2-77-033—Control of Volatile Organic Emissions from Existing Stationary Sources, Volume IV: Surface Coating for Insulation of Magnetic Wire.	X	.....
Metal Coil Coating	EPA-450/2-77-008—Control of Volatile Organic Emissions from Existing Stationary Sources, Volume II: Surface Coating of Cans, Coils, Paper, Fabrics, Automobiles, and Light-Duty Trucks.	X	.....
Natural Gas/Gasoline Processing ...	EPA-450/2-83-007—Control of Volatile Organic Compound Equipment Leaks from Natural Gas/Gasoline Processing Plants.	X	.....
Paper and Fabric Coating	EPA-450/2-77-008—Control of Volatile Organic Emissions from Existing Stationary Sources, Volume II: Surface Coating of Cans, Coils, Paper, Fabrics, Automobiles, and Light-Duty Trucks.	X	.....
Resin Manufacturing (High-Density Polyethylene, Polypropylene, and Polystyrene).	EPA-450/3-83-008—Control of Volatile Organic Compound Emissions from Manufacture of High-Density Polyethylene, Polypropylene, and Polystyrene Resins.	X	.....
Refineries	EPA-450/2-77-025—Control of Refinery Vacuum Producing Systems, Wastewater Separators and Process Unit Turnarounds.	X	.....
Rubber Tire Manufacturing	EPA-450/2-78-036—Control of Volatile Organic Compound Leaks from Petroleum Refinery Equipment.	X	.....
Ship Coating	EPA-450/2-78-030—Control of Volatile Organic Emissions from Manufacture of Pneumatic Rubber Tires.	X	.....
Wood Coating (Flat Wood Paneling)	61 FR 44050—Control Techniques Guidelines for Shipbuilding and Ship Repair Operations (Surface Coating).	X	.....
Wood Coating (Flat Wood Paneling)	EPA-450/2-78-032—Control of Volatile Organic Emissions from Existing Stationary Sources, Volume VII: Factory Surface Coating of Flat Wood Paneling.	X	.....
Flat Wood Paneling Coatings	EPA-453/R06-004—Control Techniques Guidelines for Flat Wood Paneling Coatings.	.....	X
Paper, Film and Foil	EPA-453/R-07-004—Control Techniques Guidelines for Paper, Film, and Foil Coatings.	.....	X

* * * * *

■ 4. Section 52.237 is amended by adding paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 52.237 Part D disapproval.

* * * * *

(b) The following Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) determinations are disapproved because they do not meet the requirements of Part D of the Clean Air Act.

(1) Sacramento Air Quality Management District.

(i) RACT Determinations for the Pharmaceutical Products Manufacturing Source Category and the Kiefer Landfill (volatile organic compounds only), in

the submittal titled “Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) as Applicable to the 8-Hour Ozone Standard,” dated October 26, 2006, as adopted on October 26, 2006 and submitted on July 11, 2007.

- (ii) [Reserved]
- (2) [Reserved]

[FR Doc. 2016-18900 Filed 8-11-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R06-OAR-2012-0985; FRL-9950-50-Region 6]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Interstate Transport of Air Pollution for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is disapproving the portion of a Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP) submittal pertaining to interstate transport of air pollution which will significantly contribute to nonattainment or interfere with maintenance of the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) in other states. Disapproval establishes a 2-year deadline for the EPA to promulgate a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) for Texas to address the Clean Air Act (CAA) interstate transport requirements pertaining to significant contribution to nonattainment and interference with maintenance of the 2008 ozone NAAQS in other states, unless the EPA approves a SIP that meets these requirements. Disapproval does not start a mandatory sanctions clock for Texas.

DATES: This rule is effective on September 12, 2016.

ADDRESSES: The EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID No. EPA-R06-OAR-2012-0985. All documents in the docket are listed on the <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., Confidential Business Information or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the Internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically through <http://www.regulations.gov> or in hard

copy at EPA Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carl Young, 214-665-6645, young.carl@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Throughout this document, “we,” “us,” and “our” means the EPA.

I. Background

This rulemaking addresses an infrastructure SIP submittal from the state of Texas addressing, among other things, the requirements of CAA section 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(I), also known as the good neighbor provision (or interstate transport prongs 1 and 2), with respect to the 2008 ozone NAAQS. The background for this action is discussed in detail in our April 11, 2016 proposal (81 FR 21290). In that action we proposed to disapprove the portion of the December 13, 2012 Texas SIP submittal pertaining to CAA section 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(I) which requires that the State prohibit any emissions activity within the state from emitting air pollutants which will significantly contribute to nonattainment (prong 1) or interfere with maintenance (prong 2) of the 2008 ozone NAAQS in other states.¹ In proposing to disapprove the SIP submittal as to prongs 1 and 2 of the good neighbor provision, we noted several deficiencies in Texas’ submittal: (1) Texas limited its discussion of data only to areas designated nonattainment in states that are geographically closest to Texas (Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee, and Wisconsin); and (2) Texas did not give the “interfere with maintenance” clause of CAA section 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(I) independent significance because its analysis did not attempt to evaluate the potential impact of Texas emissions on areas that are currently measuring clean data, but that may have issues maintaining that air quality.² Finally, the EPA explained that

¹ In a separate action, we disapproved the portion of the SIP submittal pertaining to the CAA section 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(II) requirement to address the interstate transport of air pollution which will interfere with other states’ programs for visibility protection (81 FR 296, January 5, 2016). We proposed to approve the other portions of the infrastructure SIP submittal on February 8, 2016 (81 FR 6483).

² In addition, the EPA cited at proposal certain technical information the agency had released in order to facilitate efforts to address interstate transport requirements for the 2008 ozone NAAQS, and that this information was used to support the proposed Cross-State Air Pollution Rule Update for the 2008 ozone NAAQS (CSAPR Update) (81 FR 21299, 21292). We noted that such information contradicts Texas’ conclusions that its SIP contained adequate provisions to meet the CAA interstate transport requirements with respect to the

Texas and other states could no longer rely on the implementation of the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) to satisfy emission reduction obligations with respect to the 2008 ozone NAAQS (81 FR 21290, 21294-5). The EPA is finalizing its proposed disapproval in this action.

We received three comments during the comment period on our proposed SIP disapproval. The comments were submitted by the State of Texas (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality “TCEQ”), Luminant (a Texas electricity producer) and a member of the public. A synopsis of the comments and our responses are provided below.

II. Response to Comments

Comment: Comments were received from a member of the public that was supportive of the EPA’s basis for its proposed action, but added that (1) the public can better understand how we are using the most current information if we clarify and explain how the projections and modeling discussed in the evaluation for our proposal are informed by recent ozone monitoring data, and (2) the commenter stated that the EPA took too long to propose action on the Texas SIP revision, noting that Texas would benefit from earlier review of its analysis by the EPA.

Response: We agree with the commenter’s conclusion that Texas’s SIP submittal was inadequate to address the statutory interstate transport requirements with respect to the 2008 ozone NAAQS. With respect to the commenter’s first concern, the projections and modeling released in the August 4, 2015 NODA and the proposed CSAPR Update, which we also recited in the EPA’s proposed action on the Texas SIP submittal. In our CSAPR Update proposal, we explained how the CSAPR Update Rule proposed to use recent ozone monitoring data to inform our evaluation of interstate transport (80 FR 75706, 75724). We proposed to identify as nonattainment receptors those monitoring sites that (1) measured ozone concentrations that exceed the NAAQS based on monitoring data from years 2012-2014, and (2) are projected to exceed the NAAQS in 2017

2008 ozone NAAQS. See Notice of Data Availability (NODA), 80 FR 46271, (August 4, 2015) and the proposed CSAPR Update, 80 FR 75706 (December 3, 2015). We also noted at proposal that the EPA technical information in the NODA and the proposed CSAPR Update accounted for the emission reductions resulting from controls listed in the SIP, implemented within the state, and nonetheless showed that Texas will contribute to downwind air quality problems. The CSAPR Update, however, is outside the scope of this action, and is irrelevant to the question of whether the Texas SIP should be disapproved.