

receive adverse comments by January 20, 2017, we will publish a timely withdrawal in the **Federal Register** to notify the public that the direct final action will not take effect and we will address the comments in a subsequent final action based on the proposal. If we do not receive timely adverse comments, the direct final action will be effective without further notice on February 21, 2017.

V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

This action makes a determination based on air quality data and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. For that reason, the action:

- Is not a “significant regulatory action” subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993);
- does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*);
- is certified as not having a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*);
- does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–4);
- does not have Federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);
- is not an economically significant regulatory action based on health or safety risks subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997);
- is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001);
- is not subject to the requirements of section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the CAA; and
- does not provide the EPA with the discretionary authority to address, as appropriate, disproportionate human health or environmental effects, using practicable and legally permissible methods, under Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

In addition, this rule does not have tribal implications as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000), because the SIP obligations discussed herein do not apply to Indian tribes, and thus this action will not impose substantial direct

costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law.

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. The EPA will submit a report containing this action and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the **Federal Register**. A major rule cannot take effect until 60 days after it is published in the **Federal Register**. This action is not a “major rule” as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

Under section 307(b)(1) of the Clean Air Act, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by February 21, 2017. Filing a petition for reconsideration by the Administrator of this final rule does not affect the finality of this action 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. Parties with objections to this direct final rule are encouraged to file a comment in response to the parallel notice of proposed rulemaking for this action published in the Proposed Rules section of today’s **Federal Register**, rather than file an immediate petition for judicial review of this direct final rule, so that the EPA can withdraw this direct final rule and address the comment in the proposed rulemaking. 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, Oxides of Nitrogen, Ozone, Volatile organic compounds.

Dated: December 2, 2016.

Deborah Jordan,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region IX.

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 52.282 is amended by adding paragraph (j) to read as follows:

§ 52.282 Control strategy and regulations: Ozone

* * * * *

(j) *Determination of attainment.* The EPA has determined that, as of February 21, 2017, the Mariposa County 2008 8-hour ozone nonattainment area in California has attained the 2008 ozone standard, based upon complete, quality-assured and certified data for 2013–2015. Under the provisions of the EPA’s ozone implementation rule (see 40 CFR 51.1118), this determination suspends the requirements for the area to submit attainment demonstrations and associated reasonably available control measures, reasonable further progress plans, contingency measures for failure to attain or make reasonable further progress and other planning SIPs related to attainment of the 2008 ozone standard for as long as the area continues to attain the 2008 ozone standard. If the EPA determines, after notice-and-comment rulemaking, that the Mariposa County ozone nonattainment area no longer meets the 2008 ozone standard, the corresponding determination of attainment for this area shall be withdrawn.

[FR Doc. 2016–30477 Filed 12–20–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA–R01–OAR–2014–0720; A–1–FRL–9952–94–Region 1]

Air Plan Approval; MA; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Requirements

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is approving most elements of State Implementation Plan (SIP) submissions from Massachusetts regarding the infrastructure requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA or Act) for the 1997 ozone, 2008 lead (Pb), 2008 ozone, 2010 nitrogen dioxide

(NO₂), and 2010 sulfur dioxide (SO₂) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). EPA is also conditionally approving three aspects of the Commonwealth's submittals. In addition, we are also making findings of failure to submit pertaining to various aspects of the prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) requirements of infrastructure SIPs. Lastly, we are removing 40 CFR 52.1160 as legally obsolete. This action is being taken in accordance with the Clean Air Act.

DATES: This rule is effective on January 20, 2017.

ADDRESSES: EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket Identification No. EPA-R01-OAR-2014-0720. 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, *i.e.*, CBI 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 form. Publicly available docket materials are available at <http://www.regulations.gov> or at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA New England Regional Office, Office of Ecosystem Protection, Air Quality Planning Unit, 5 Post Office Square—Suite 100, Boston, MA. EPA requests

that if at all possible, you contact the contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section to schedule your inspection. The Regional Office's official hours of business are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob McConnell, Environmental Engineer, Air Quality Planning Unit, Air Programs Branch (Mail Code OEP05-02), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100, Boston, Massachusetts, 02109-3912; (617) 918-1046; mccconnell.robert@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Throughout this document whenever "we," "us," or "our" is used, we mean EPA. The term "the Commonwealth" refers to the state of Massachusetts.

Organization of this document. The following outline is provided to aid in locating information in this preamble.

- I. Background and Purpose
- II. Final Action
- III. Incorporation by Reference
- IV. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

I. Background and Purpose

On July 20, 2016 (81 FR 47133), EPA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR) for the State of Massachusetts which proposed approval of most elements of SIP submissions from the Commonwealth regarding the

infrastructure requirements of the CAA for the 1997 ozone, 2008 lead, 2008 ozone, 2010 NO₂, and 2010 SO₂ NAAQS, proposed to conditionally approve three aspects of the Commonwealth's submittals, and proposed findings of failure to submit pertaining to various aspects of the PSD requirements of infrastructure SIPs. Additionally, we proposed to remove 40 CFR 52.1160 as legally obsolete. The Commonwealth submitted its infrastructure State Implementation Plan (ISIP) for the 1997 ozone NAAQS on December 14, 2007, its ISIP for the 2008 Pb NAAQS on December 4, 2012, and its ISIPs for the 2008 ozone, 2010 NO₂, and 2010 SO₂ NAAQS on June 6, 2014.

Under sections 110(a)(1) and (2) of the CAA, states are required to submit infrastructure SIPs to ensure that their SIPs provide for implementation, maintenance, and enforcement of the NAAQS, including the 1997 ozone, 2008 Pb, 2008 ozone, 2010 NO₂, and 2010 SO₂ NAAQS. These submissions must contain any revisions needed for meeting the applicable SIP requirements of section 110(a)(2), or certifications that their existing SIPs for the NAAQS already meet those requirements. Table 1 below provides a summary of the actions we are taking on the various portions of the Commonwealth's infrastructure submittals.

TABLE 1—FINAL ACTION ON MA INFRASTRUCTURE SIP SUBMITTALS FOR VARIOUS NAAQS

Element	1997 Ozone	2008 Pb	2008 Ozone	2010 NO ₂	2010 SO ₂
(A): Emission limits and other control measures	CA	CA	CA	CA	CA
(B): Ambient air quality monitoring and data system	A	A	A	A	A
(C)(i): Enforcement of SIP measures	A	A	A	A	A
(C)(ii): PSD program for major sources and major modifications.	PF	PF	PF	FS	FS
(C)(iii): Permitting program for minor sources and minor modifications.	A	A	A	A	A
(D)(i)(I): Contribute to nonattainment/interfere with maintenance of NAAQS (prongs 1 and 2).	NI	A	NS	A	NS
(D)(i)(II): PSD (prong 3)	PF/CA	PF/CA	PF/CA	FS/CA	FS/CA
(D)(i)(II): Visibility Protection (prong 4)	A	A	A	A	A
(D)(ii): Interstate Pollution Abatement	PF	PF	PF	FS	FS
(D)(iii): International Pollution Abatement	A	A	A	A	A
(E)(i): Adequate resources	A	A	A	A	A
(E)(ii): State boards	A	A	A	A	A
(E)(iii): Necessary assurances with respect to local agencies.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
(F): Stationary source monitoring system	A	A	A	A	A
(G): Emergency power	CA	A	CA	A	CA
(H): Future SIP revisions	A	A	A	A	A
(I): Nonattainment area plan or plan revisions under part D.	+	+	+	+	+
(J)(i): Consultation with government officials	FS	FS	FS	FS	FS
(J)(ii): Public notification	A	A	A	A	A
(J)(iii): PSD	PF	PF	PF	FS	FS
(J)(iv): Visibility protection	+	+	+	+	+
(K): Air quality modeling and data	A	A	A	A	A
(L): Permitting fees	A	A	A	A	A
(M): Consultation and participation by affected local entities.	A	A	A	A	A

In the above table, the key is as follows:

A	Approve.
CA	Conditional approval.
FS	Finding of failure to submit.
NA	Not applicable.
NI	Not included in submittal we are acting on in today's action.
NS	No Submittal.
PF	Prior finding of failure to submit.
+	Not germane to infrastructure SIPs.

The specific requirements of ISIPs and the rationale for EPA's proposed actions on the Commonwealth's submittals are explained in the NPR and will not be restated here. No public comments were received on the NPR.

II. Final Action

EPA is approving most portions of Massachusetts ISIP submittals for the 1997 ozone, 2008 lead, 2008 ozone, 2010 NO₂, and 2010 SO₂ NAAQS as outlined within Table 1 of this final rulemaking.

Additionally, EPA is conditionally approving three portions of these submittals. First, for the five NAAQS listed within Table 1 we are conditionally approving an aspect of the Commonwealth's submittals for element 110(a)(2)(A) pertaining to ambient air quality standards because the current, SIP-approved version of 310 CMR 7.00, *Air Pollution Control*, does not reflect the current version of the various NAAQS we are taking action on in this rulemaking. However, by letter dated June 14, 2016, the Commonwealth committed to rectify this deficiency by adding a definition of NAAQS to 310 CMR 7.00 that includes a calendar date to address this issue. Therefore, EPA is conditionally approving this SIP revision. Second, we are conditionally approving the Commonwealth's submittals for element 110(a)(2)(G) pertaining to contingency plans for the 1997 ozone, 2008 ozone, and 2010 SO₂ NAAQS pursuant to Massachusetts commitment within their June 14, 2016 letter to submit a regulation meeting the contingency plan requirement of element 110(a)(2)(G). And last, we are conditionally approving the aspect of 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(II) for the five NAAQS listed within Table 1 pertaining to the Commonwealth's Nonattainment New Source Review (NNSR) program pursuant to the state's June 14, 2016 letter committing to submit portions of 310 CMR 7.00: *Appendix A*, to EPA as a SIP revision request. Massachusetts must make the above mentioned submittals to EPA by a date no later than one year from EPA's final action on these infrastructure SIPs. If the

Commonwealth fails to do so, this approval will become a disapproval on that date, and we will notify Massachusetts by letter that this action has occurred. At that time, this commitment will no longer be a part of the approved Massachusetts SIP. EPA subsequently will publish a notice in the notice section of the **Federal Register** notifying the public that the conditional approval automatically converted to a disapproval. If the State meets its commitments within the applicable time frame, the conditionally approved submittals will remain a part of the SIP until EPA takes final action approving or disapproving the new legislative authority. If EPA disapproves the new submittal, these conditionally approved aspects of the Commonwealth's ISIPs will also be disapproved at that time. If EPA approves the Commonwealth's submittals, they will be fully approved in their entirety and replace the conditionally approved items in the Massachusetts SIP. If the conditional approval is converted to a disapproval, the final disapproval triggers the Federal implementation plan (FIP) requirement under section 110(c).

As noted within Table 1 of this final rulemaking notice, we are also making findings of failure to submit for the aspects of the Commonwealth's ISIPs noted within CAA sections 110(a)(2)(C)(ii), (D)(i)(II), (D)(ii), J(i), and J(iii). These findings relate to inadequacies with Massachusetts' program for the prevention of significant deterioration (PSD), and are elaborated on within our July 20, 2016 NPR. As mentioned in our proposed rulemaking, the Commonwealth is subject to a PSD Federal Implementation Plan (FIP), and has implemented and enforced the federal PSD program through a delegation agreement. See 76 FR 31241; May 31, 2011. Therefore, our findings of failure to submit will not trigger any additional FIP obligation by the EPA under section 110(c)(1), because the deficiency is addressed by the FIP already in place. Moreover, the state is not subject to mandatory sanctions solely as a result of this finding, because the SIP submittal deficiencies are neither with respect to a sub-element that is required under part D nor in response to a SIP call under section 110(k)(5) of the Act.

Furthermore, as proposed, we are incorporating into the Massachusetts SIP sections 6 and 6A of the state's Conflict of Interest law, which the Commonwealth submitted on June 6, 2014, and are removing 40 CFR 52.1160 regarding Massachusetts Low Emission

Vehicle program in that this section is legally obsolete.

III. Incorporation by Reference

In this rule, the EPA is finalizing regulatory text that includes incorporation by reference. In accordance with requirements of 1 CFR 51.5, the EPA is finalizing the incorporation by reference of M.G.L c. 268A, sections 6 and 6A of the Commonwealth's Conflict of Interest law submitted to EPA on June 6, 2014, as described in the amendments to 40 CFR part 52 set forth below. The EPA has made, and will continue to make, these documents generally available through <http://www.regulations.gov>.

IV. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under the Clean Air Act, the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the Act and applicable Federal regulations. 42 U.S.C. 7410(k); 40 CFR 52.02(a). Thus, in reviewing SIP submissions, EPA's role is to approve state choices, provided that they meet the criteria of the Clean Air Act. Accordingly, this action merely approves state law as meeting Federal requirements and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. For that reason, this action:

- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Orders 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993) and 13563 (76 FR 3821, January 21, 2011);
- Does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*);
- Is certified as not having a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*);
- Does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-4);
- Does not have Federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);
- Is not an economically significant regulatory action based on health or safety risks subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997);
- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001);
- Is not subject to requirements of Section 12(d) of the National

Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the Clean Air Act; and

- Does not provide EPA with the discretionary authority to address, as appropriate, disproportionate human health or environmental effects, using practicable and legally permissible methods, under Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

In addition, the SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where EPA or an Indian tribe has demonstrated that a tribe has jurisdiction. In those areas of Indian country, the rule does not have tribal implications and will not impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000).

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. EPA will submit a report containing this action and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the **Federal Register**. A major rule cannot take effect until 60 days after it is published in the **Federal Register**. This action is not a “major rule” as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

Under section 307(b)(1) of the Clean Air Act, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by February 21, 2017. Filing a petition for reconsideration by the Administrator of this final rule does not affect the finality of this action 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, Lead, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulfur oxides, Volatile organic compounds.

Dated: September 13, 2016.

H. Curtis Spalding,

Regional Administrator, EPA New England.

Part 52 of chapter I, title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 52—APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OF AIR QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

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

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

Subpart W—Massachusetts

■ 2. Section 52.1119 is amended by adding paragraphs (a)(3) through (5) to read as follows:

§ 52.1119 Identification of plan-conditional approval

* * * * *

(a) * * *

(3) Massachusetts submitted an infrastructure State Implementation Plan (ISIP) for the 1997 ozone national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) on December 14, 2007, submitted an ISIP for the 2008 Pb NAAQS on December 4, 2012, and submitted ISIPs for the 2008 ozone, 2010 NO₂, and 2010 SO₂ NAAQS on June 6, 2014. On June 14, 2016, Massachusetts submitted a letter committing to add a definition of NAAQS to Massachusetts regulation 310 CMR 7.00, and to submit the amended version of this regulation to EPA as a SIP revision request, by a date no later than one year from the effective date of EPA’s actions on these ISIPs. In light of this commitment, the portion of the Commonwealth’s ISIP submittals mentioned above made to address Clean Air Act section 110(a)(2)(A), Emission limits and other control measures, is conditionally approved.

(4) Massachusetts submitted an infrastructure State Implementation Plan (ISIP) for the 1997 ozone national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) on December 14, 2007, submitted an ISIP for the 2008 Pb NAAQS on December 4, 2012, and submitted ISIPs for the 2008 ozone, 2010 NO₂, and 2010 SO₂ NAAQS on June 6, 2014. On June 14, 2016, Massachusetts submitted a letter committing to submit portions of 310 CMR 7.00: Appendix A: Emission Offsets and Nonattainment Review, to EPA as a SIP revision request, by a date no later than one year from the effective date of EPA’s actions on these ISIPs. In light of this commitment, the portions of the Commonwealth’s ISIP submittals mentioned above made to address Clean Air Act section 110 (a)(2)(D)(i)(II), PSD, is conditionally approved.

(5) Massachusetts submitted an infrastructure State Implementation Plan (ISIP) for the 1997 ozone national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) on December 14, 2007, and submitted ISIPs for the 2008 ozone and 2010 SO₂ NAAQS on June 6, 2014. On June 14, 2016, Massachusetts submitted a letter committing to submit 310 CMR 8.00, The Prevention and/or Abatement of Air Pollution Episode and Air Pollution Incident Emergencies, to EPA as a SIP revision request, by a date no later than one year from the effective date of EPA’s actions on these ISIPs. In light of this commitment, the portions of the Commonwealth’s ISIP submittals mentioned above made to address Clean Air Act section 110 (a)(2)(G), Emergency power, is conditionally approved.

■ 3. Section 52.1120 is amended by adding paragraphs (c)(145) through (147) to read as follows:

§ 52.1120 Identification of plan

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(145) Revisions to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) submitted by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection on December 14, 2007. The submittal consists of an Infrastructure SIP for the 1997 ozone national ambient air quality standard.

(146) Revisions to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) submitted by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection on December 4, 2012. The submittal consists of an Infrastructure SIP for the 2008 lead national ambient air quality standard.

(147) Revisions to the State Implementation Plan submitted by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection on June 6, 2014. The submittal consists of Infrastructure SIPs for the 2008 ozone, 2010 NO₂, and 2010 SO₂ national ambient air quality standards.

(i) Incorporation by reference.

(A) Section 6, “Financial interest of state employee, relative, or associates; disclosure,” of the Massachusetts General Laws Annotated, chapter 268A, “Conduct of Public Officials and Employees,” as amended by Statute 1978, chapter 210, § 9.

(B) Section 6A, “Conflict of interest of public officials; reporting requirement,” of the Massachusetts General Laws Annotated, chapter 268A, “Conduct of Public Officials and Employees,” as amended by Statute 1984, chapter 189, § 163.

§ 52.1160 [Removed and Reserved]

■ 4. Section 52.1160 is removed and reserved.

■ 5. In § 52.1167, Table 52.1167 is amended by adding a state citation for

conflict of interest law at the end of the table to read as follows:

§ 52.1167 EPA-approved Massachusetts State regulations.

* * * * *

TABLE 52.1167—EPA-APPROVED RULES AND REGULATIONS

[See Notes at end of Table]

State citation	Title/subject	Date submitted by State	Date approved by EPA	Federal Register citation	52.1120(c)	Comments/unapproved sections
* M.G.L. c. 268A, sections 6 and 6A.	* Conduct of Public Officials and Employees.	* June 6, 2014	* 12/21/16	* [Insert Federal Register citation].	* 147	* Approved Section 6: Financial interest of state employee, relative or associates; disclosure, and Section 6A: Conflict of interest of public official; reporting requirement.

Notes:

1. This table lists regulations adopted as of 1972. It does not depict regulatory requirements which may have been part of the Federal SIP before this date.
2. The regulations are effective statewide unless otherwise stated in comments or title section.

[FR Doc. 2016–30466 Filed 12–20–16; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Parts 52 and 81

[EPA–R05–OAR–2016–0372; FRL–9956–59–Region 5]

Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Redesignation of the Columbus, Ohio Area to Attainment of the 2008 Ozone Standard

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is finding that the Columbus, Ohio area is attaining the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS or standard) and redesignating the area to attainment for the 2008 ozone NAAQS because the area meets the statutory requirements for redesignation under the Clean Air Act (CAA or Act). The Columbus area includes Delaware, Fairfield, Knox, Licking, and Mason Counties. EPA is also approving, as a revision to the Ohio State Implementation Plan (SIP), the state’s plan for maintaining the 2008 ozone standard through 2030 in the Columbus area. Finally, EPA finds adequate and is approving the state’s 2020 and 2030 volatile organic compound (VOC) and oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets (MVEBs) for the Columbus area. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) submitted the SIP revision

and redesignation request on June 16, 2016.

DATES: This final rule is effective December 21, 2016.

ADDRESSES: EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID No. EPA–R05–OAR–2016–0372. All documents in the docket are listed in 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 form. Publicly available docket materials are available either through <http://www.regulations.gov>, or please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section for additional availability information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathleen D’Agostino, Environmental Scientist, Attainment Planning and Maintenance Section, Air Programs Branch (AR–18J), Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604, (312) 886–1767, dagostino.kathleen@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Throughout this document whenever “we,” “us,” or “our” is used, we mean EPA.

I. What is being addressed in this document?

This rule takes action on the June 16, 2016, submission from Ohio EPA requesting redesignation of the Columbus area to attainment for the 2008 ozone standard. The background

for today’s action is discussed in detail in EPA’s proposal, dated September 28, 2016 (81 FR 66578). In that rulemaking, we noted that, under EPA regulations at 40 CFR part 50, the 2008 ozone NAAQS is attained in an area when the 3-year average of the annual fourth highest daily maximum 8-hour average concentration is equal to or less than 0.075 ppm, when truncated after the thousandth decimal place, at all of the ozone monitoring sites in the area. (See 40 CFR 50.15 and appendix P to 40 CFR part 50.) Under the CAA, EPA may redesignate nonattainment areas to attainment if sufficient complete, quality-assured data are available to determine that the area has attained the standard and if it meets the other CAA redesignation requirements in section 107(d)(3)(E). The proposed rule, dated September 28, 2016, provides a detailed discussion of how Ohio has met these CAA requirements.

As discussed in the proposed rule, quality-assured and certified monitoring data for 2013–2015 and preliminary data for 2016 show that the Columbus area has attained and continues to attain the 2008 ozone standard. In the maintenance plan submitted for the area, Ohio has demonstrated that the ozone standard will be maintained in the area through 2030. Finally, Ohio has adopted 2020 and 2030 VOC and NO_x MVEBs for the Columbus area that are supported by Ohio’s maintenance demonstration.

II. What comments did we receive on the proposed rule?

EPA provided a 30-day review and comment period for the September 28, 2016, proposed rule. The comment