

I. Introduction

On July 22, 2021, the Postal Service filed a petition pursuant to 39 CFR 3050.11 requesting that the Commission initiate a rulemaking proceeding to consider changes to analytical principles relating to periodic reports.¹ The Petition identifies the proposed analytical changes filed in this docket as Proposal Four.

II. Proposal Four

Background. The Postal Service currently develops the distribution factors used for the Special Purpose Route (SPR) city carrier cost pools based on manual data collection through the City Carrier Costing System SPR subsystem (CCCS–SPR). The Commission approved the use of this subsystem in Order No. 339, and it has been used each year since FY 2009.²

Proposal. With Proposal Four, the Postal Service seeks to replace the CCCS–SPR subsystem with a new system called the Special Purpose Carrier Cost System (SPCCS). The Postal Service cites two objectives for this new system: “to replace manual sampling with scan data from Product Tracking and Reporting (PTR) combined with the clock rings from the Time and Attendance Collection System (TACS)” and to “separate the weekday SPR cost pool into peak and non-peak pools and provide separate distribution factors for each cost pool.” Petition, Proposal Four at 2.

With respect to the first objective, the Postal Service plans to use PTR delivery scans that occur within time blocks when a city carrier is clocked to Management Operating Data System (MODS) Operating Codes specific to Special Purpose Routes. *Id.* The Postal Service proposes to use a sample of time blocks “[d]ue to the disproportionate resources required to obtain a complete nationwide census.” *Id.*

Regarding the second objective, the Postal Service proposes to disaggregate the volume variabilities used for the SPR Monday through Saturday cost pool in order to create separate non-peak and peak weekday SPR cost pools. *Id.* at 3. The Postal Service also proposes annual updates to the hours used to weight the new weekday non-peak SPR cost pool variabilities. *Id.*

Impact. The impacts of Proposal Four are outlined in Table 1 of the proposal.

¹ Petition of the United States Postal Service for the Initiation of a Proceeding to Consider Proposed Changes in Analytical Principles (Proposal Four), July 22, 2021 (Petition).

² See Docket No. RM2009–10, Order on Analytical Principles Used in Periodic Reporting (Proposals Three through Nineteen), November 13, 2009 (Order No. 339); Petition, Proposal Four at 1.

Id. at 7. The most significant change in unit costs is a decrease of \$0.1743 for Collect on Delivery Service. *Id.* The unit cost of USPS Marketing Mail Parcels would increase by \$0.0151, from \$0.238 to \$0.254 per unit. *Id.* The unit cost for total domestic market dominant services would decrease by \$0.0144 per unit. *Id.*

III. Notice and Comment

The Commission establishes Docket No. RM2021–7 for consideration of matters raised by the Petition. More information on the Petition may be accessed via the Commission’s website at <http://www.prc.gov>. Interested persons may submit comments on the Petition and Proposal Four no later than August 23, 2021. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Manon Boudreault is designated as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

IV. Ordering Paragraph

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. RM2021–7 for consideration of the matters raised by the Petition of the United States Postal Service for the Initiation of a Proceeding to Consider Proposed Changes in Analytical Principles (Proposal Four), filed July 22, 2021.

2. Comments by interested persons in this proceeding are due no later than August 23, 2021.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, the Commission appoints Manon Boudreault to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this docket.

4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this Order in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

Erica A. Barker,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021–16294 Filed 7–29–21; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 35

[EPA–R09–OAR–2021–0359; FRL–8699–01–R9]

Clean Air Act Grant; Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District; Opportunity for Public Hearing

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notification; proposed determination with request for

comments and notice of opportunity for public hearing.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to determine that the reduction in expenditures of non-Federal funds for the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (SBCAPCD) in support of its continuing air program under section 105 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), for the calendar year 2020 are a result of non-selective reductions in expenditures. This determination, when final, will permit the SBCAPCD to receive grant funding for fiscal year (FY) 2021 from the EPA under section 105 of the CAA.

DATES: Comments and/or requests for a public hearing must be received by the EPA at the address stated below on or before August 30, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–R09–OAR–2021–0359 at <https://www.regulations.gov>. For comments submitted at [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov). The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Proprietary Business Information (PBI) or Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.* on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. For the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>. If you need assistance in a language other than English or if you are a person with disabilities who needs a reasonable accommodation at no cost to you, please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Angela Latigue, EPA Region IX, Grants and Program Integration Office, Air Division, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105; phone at (415)

947–4170 or email address at latigue.angela@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 105 of the CAA provides grant funding for the continuing air programs of eligible state, local, and tribal agencies. In accordance with 40 CFR 35.145(a), the Regional Administrator may provide air pollution control agencies up to three-fifths of the approved costs of implementing programs for the prevention and control of air pollution. CAA Section 105 grants require a cost share (also referred to as a match requirement) and a maintenance of effort (MOE). An eligible agency must meet a minimum 40% match. In addition, to remain eligible for section 105 funds, an eligible agency must meet an MOE requirement under section 105(c)(1) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. 7405.

Program activities relevant to the match consist of both recurring and non-recurring (unique, one-time only) expenses. The MOE provision requires that a state or local agency spend at least the same dollar level of funds as it did in the previous grant year, but only for the costs of recurring activities. Specifically, section 105(c)(1) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. 7405(c)(1), provides that, “No agency shall receive any grant under this section during any fiscal year when its expenditures of non-Federal funds for recurrent expenditures for air pollution control programs will be less than its expenditures were for such programs during the preceding fiscal year.” However, pursuant to CAA section 105(c)(2), 42 U.S.C. 7405(c)(2), the EPA may still award a grant to an agency not meeting the requirements of section 105(c)(1), “. . . if the Administrator, after notice and opportunity for public hearing, determines that a reduction in expenditures is attributable to a non-selective reduction in the expenditures in the programs of all Executive branch agencies of the applicable unit of Government.” These statutory requirements are repeated in the EPA’s implementing regulations at 40 CFR 35.140–35.148. The EPA issued additional guidance to recipients on what constitutes a nonselective reduction on September 30, 2011. In consideration of legislative history, the

guidance clarified that a non-selective reduction does not necessarily mean that each Executive branch agency needs to be reduced in equal proportion. However, it must be clear to the EPA, from the weight of evidence, that a recipient’s CAA-related air program is not being disproportionately impacted or singled out for a reduction.

A section 105 grant recipient must submit a final federal financial report no later than 90 days from the close of its grant period that documents all of its federal and non-federal expenditures for the completed period. The recipient seeking an adjustment to its MOE for that period must provide the rationale and the documentation necessary to enable the EPA to determine that a nonselective reduction has occurred. In order to expedite that determination, the recipient must provide details of the budget action and the comparative fiscal impacts on all the jurisdiction’s executive branch agencies, the recipient agency itself, and the agency’s air program. The recipient should identify any executive branch agencies or programs that should be excepted from comparison and explain why. The recipient must provide evidence that the air program is not being singled out for a reduction or being disproportionately reduced. Documentation in key areas will be needed: Budget data specific to the recipient’s air program, and comparative budget data between the recipient’s air program, the agency containing the air program, and the other executive branch agencies. The EPA may also request information from the recipient about how impacts on its program operations will affect its ability to meet its CAA obligations and requirements; and documentation that explains the cause of the reduction, such as legislative changes or the issuance of a new executive order.

In fiscal year (FY) 2020, the EPA awarded the SBCAPCD \$519,277, which represented approximately 7% of the SBCAPCD budget. In FY2021, the EPA intends to award the SBCAPCD approximately \$522,315, which represents approximately 7% of the SBCAPCD budget.

SBCAPCD’s final federal financial report for FY2019 indicated that

SBCAPCD’s MOE level was \$8,551,345. SBCAPCD’s final federal financial report for FY2020 indicates that SBCAPCD’s MOE level is at \$7,890,365. The reduced MOE is not sufficient to meet the MOE requirements under the CAA Section 105 because it is not equal to or greater than the MOE for the previous fiscal year.

In order for the SBCAPCD to be eligible to receive its FY2021 CAA section 105 grant, the EPA must make a determination (after notice and an opportunity for a public hearing) that the reduction in expenditures is attributable to a non-selective reduction in the expenditures in the programs of the SBCAPCD.

The SBCAPCD is a single-purpose air pollution control agency. It is the unit of government for CAA section 105(c)(2) purposes.

On March 25, 2021, the SBCAPCD submitted a request to the EPA seeking a reduction for the required MOE for FY2020. The SBCAPCD explained that it was unable to meet its MOE requirement due in large part to a budget increase of 21.1% from pass-through monies from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for multiple state projects. The State Legislature, through the budget adoption process, placed a strong emphasis on the use of funding for voluntary emission reduction programs through the network of local air districts. This action resulted in a total of over \$2.7 million for Santa Barbara County projects in FY2019–2020, a 21.1% budget increase received from the previous fiscal year. These funds were used to continue expanding the reach of the grant programs initiated in FY2018–2019, including the Carl Moyer program, Community Air Protection legislation (AB617), the Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emissions Reductions (FARMER) program, and the Wood Smoke Reduction program. In addition, the District experienced a significant reduction in filling vacant positions due to the conditions caused by the COVID–19 pandemic. The following table illustrates the District’s actual expenditures from Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 2017 through 2020.

Description	Actual FFY 17–18	Actual FFY 18–19	Difference	Actual FFY 18–19	Actual FFY 19–20	Difference
Grant Revenues	\$594,385	\$2,694,441.77	\$2,100,056.77	\$2,694,441.77	\$2,421,089.07	–\$273,352.70
Services and Supplies	\$3,547,624.73	\$3,731,165.03	\$183,540.30	\$3,731,165.03	\$4,494,987.02	\$763,821.99
Salaries and Benefits	\$5,306,547.86	\$5,751,339.84	\$444,791.98	\$5,751,339.84	\$5,915,694.33	\$164,354.49
Funded Full Time Equivalent	43	37	–6	37	36	–1
Program Cost	\$6,776,864	\$8,551,345	N/A	\$8,551,345	\$7,890,365	N/A
EPA Funding	\$497,683	\$508,027	N/A	\$508,027	\$519,277	N/A

Description	Actual FFY 17–18	Actual FFY 18–19	Difference	Actual FFY 18–19	Actual FFY 19–20	Difference
Non-Recurrent Expenses	\$1,925,596	\$1,986,234	\$60,638	\$1,986,234	\$3,349,440	\$1,363,206
Total Program Cost	\$9,200,143	\$11,045,606	N/A	\$11,045,606	\$11,759,083	N/A
Amount Over/Under MOE Goal *	\$34,940	\$1,774,481	\$1,774,481	–\$660,979

The request for a reset of SBCAPCD's MOE meets the requirements for a non-selective reduction determination. The SBCAPCD's MOE reduction resulted from a loss of revenues due to a significant cut back on expenditures caused by the current COVID-19 pandemic, the inability to fill vacant positions created by retirements, and the addition of State funding for grant pass-throughs, which increased the SBCAPCD's grant non-recurring activity.

The EPA proposes to determine that the SBCAPCD lower the FY2020 MOE level to \$7,790,365 to meet the CAA section 105(c)(2) criteria as it resulted from a non-selective reduction of expenditures.

This notice constitutes a request for public comment and an opportunity for public hearing as required by the CAA. All written comments received by August 30, 2021 on this proposal will be considered. The EPA will conduct a public hearing on this proposal only if a written request for such is received by the EPA by August 30, 2021. If no written request for a hearing is received, the EPA will proceed to the final determination. While notice of the final determination will not be published in the **Federal Register**, copies of the determination can be obtained by sending a written request to Angela Latigue at the above address.

Dated: July 8, 2021.

Elizabeth Adams,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region IX.

[FR Doc. 2021-15843 Filed 7-29-21; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R07-OAR-2021-0360; FRL-8707-01-R7]

Air Plan Approval; Approval of Missouri Air Quality Implementation Plans; Revisions to St. Louis 2008 8-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision submitted by the State of Missouri on November 12, 2019, revising the 2008 8-hour ozone maintenance plan previously approved by EPA on September 20, 2018, demonstrating continued maintenance of the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), the 1979 1-Hour and 1997 8-Hour ozone standards in the St. Louis area. This revision states that the St. Louis area no longer needs to rely on the Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) program, and Reformulated Gasoline (RFG) for continued maintenance throughout the maintenance period for the 2008 8-Hour ozone NAAQS, the 1979 1-Hour ozone NAAQS and 1997 8-Hour ozone NAAQS. EPA is proposing to determine that this revision meets the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 30, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-R07-OAR-2021-0360 to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket ID No. for this rulemaking. Comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov/>, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the "Written Comments" heading of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Brown, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7 Office, Air Quality Planning Branch, 11201 Renner Boulevard, Lenexa, Kansas 66219; telephone number: (913) 551-7718; email address: brown.steven@epa.gov.

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

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I. Written Comments

Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-R07-OAR-2021-0360, at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from *Regulations.gov*. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets>.

II. What is being addressed in this document?

The EPA is proposing to approve SIP revisions submitted by the State of Missouri on November 12, 2019, revising the 2008 8-hour ozone maintenance plan previously approved on September 20, 2018 (83 FR 47572). This SIP revision demonstrates continued maintenance of the 2008 8-Hour ozone NAAQS, the 1979 1-Hour ozone NAAQS and 1997 8-Hour ozone NAAQS in the St. Louis area through the future year of 2030. Since the 2008 ozone standard is more stringent than the 1979 and 1997 ozone standards, and the boundary area for all three designations are identical, Missouri is requesting through this SIP revision to also replace the previously approved maintenance plans under those older standards. The maintenance boundary for these three standards includes the Missouri counties of Franklin, Jefferson,