disease listed in paragraph (a)(2) of this section shall be service connected even though there is no evidence of such disease during the period of service if it becomes manifest to any degree (including non-compensable) within 10 years from the date of separation from military service that includes a qualifying period of service as defined in paragraph (a)(4) of this section.

(2) Chronic diseases associated with exposure to particulate matter. The chronic diseases referred to in paragraph (a)(1) of this section are the following:

(i) Asthma.
(ii) Rhinitis.
(iii) Sinusitis, to include rhinosinusitis.

(3) Presumption of exposure. A veteran who has a qualifying period of service as defined in paragraph (a)(4) of this section shall be presumed to have been exposed to fine, particulate matter during such service, unless there is affirmative evidence to establish that the veteran was not exposed to fine, particulate matter during that service.

(4) Qualifying period of service. The term qualifying period of service means any period of active military, naval, or air service in:

(i) The Southwest Asia theater of operations, as defined in § 3.2(i), during the Persian Gulf War as defined in § 3.2(i).
(ii) Afghanistan, Syria, Djibouti, or Uzbekistan on or after September 19, 2001 during the Persian Gulf War as defined in § 3.2(i).

(b) Exceptions. A disease listed in paragraph (a)(1) of this section shall not be presumed service connected if there is affirmative evidence that:

(1) The disease was not incurred during or aggravated by a qualifying period of service; or
(2) The disease was caused by a supervening condition or event that occurred between the veteran’s most recent departure from a qualifying period of service and the onset of the disease; or
(3) The disease is the result of the veteran’s own willful misconduct.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
40 CFR Part 52

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia; Nonattainment New Source Review Requirements for 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is approving a state implementation plan (SIP) revision submitted by the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) of the District of Columbia (the District). The revision will fulfill the District’s Nonattainment New Source Review (NNSR) SIP element requirement for the 2015 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). EPA is approving the revision to the District of Columbia SIP in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA).

DATES: This final rule is effective on September 7, 2021.

ADDRESSES: EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID Number EPA–R03–OAR–2020–0489. All documents in the docket are listed on the https://www.regulations.gov website. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., confidential business information (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 through https://www.regulations.gov, or please contact the person identified in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section for additional availability information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Matthew Willson, Permits Branch (3AD10), Air & Radiation Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. The telephone number is (215) 814–5795. Mr. Willson can also be reached via electronic mail at Willson.Matthew@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On March 11, 2021 (86 FR 8734), EPA published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for the District of Columbia. In the NPRM, EPA proposed approval of the District’s NNSR Certification for the 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS. The formal SIP revision was submitted by the District on May 5, 2020. Specifically, the District certified that its existing NNSR program, covering the District portion of the Washington, DC–MD–VA Nonattainment Area (Washington Area) for the 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS, is at least as stringent as the requirements at 40 CFR 51.165, as amended by the final rule titled “Implementation of the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone: Nonattainment Area State Implementation Plan Requirements” (SIP Requirements Rule), for ozone and its precursors. See 83 FR 62998 (December 6, 2018).

On October 1, 2015, EPA promulgated a revised 8-hour ozone NAAQS of 0.070 parts per million (ppm). 80 FR 65292 (October 26, 2015). Under EPA’s regulations at 40 CFR 50.19, the 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS is attained when the three-year average of the annual fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hour average ambient air quality ozone concentration is less than or equal to 0.070 ppm.

Upon promulgation of a new or revised NAAQS, the CAA requires EPA to designate as nonattainment any area that is violating the NAAQS based on the three most recent years of ambient air quality data at the conclusion of the designation process. The Washington Area was classified as marginal nonattainment for the 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS on June 4, 2018 (effective August 3, 2018) using 2014–2016 ambient air quality data. 83 FR 25776. On December 6, 2018, EPA issued the final SIP Requirements Rule, which establishes the requirements that state, tribal, and local air quality management agencies must meet as they develop implementation plans for areas where air quality exceeds the 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS. 80 FR 65291, October 26, 2015. Areas that were designated as marginal ozone nonattainment areas are required to attain the 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS no later than August 3, 2021. 40 CFR 51.1303 and 83 FR 10376, March 9, 2018.

Based on initial nonattainment designations for the 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS, as well as the December 6, 2018 final SIP Requirements Rule, the District was required to develop a SIP revision addressing certain CAA requirements for the Washington Area, and submit to EPA a NNSR Certification or SIP revision no later than 36 months after the effective date of area designations for the 2015 8-hour ozone

II. Analysis

Overview of District Submission

The District submitted a revision of its NNSR SIP, as required by 40 CFR 51.165. The District’s submission is based on the District’s implementation of the SIP requirements in the SIP Requirements Rule, and its analysis of Washington Area air quality data from 2014 through 2016. In its SIP submission, the District also included additional air quality and compliance data that was not available when the District initially submitted its NNSR SIP as part of its implementation plans in August 2018.

The District completed a comprehensive implementation of the SIP Requirements Rule. The District’s submission included a detailed analysis of the District’s air quality data and demonstrated that the District met the requirements of the SIP Requirements Rule.

III. Determination

EPA has determined that the District’s NNSR SIP revision is consistent with the requirements of 40 CFR 51.165 and the SIP Requirements Rule. The District’s SIP revision is therefore approved.

IV. Final Rule

This final rule is effective on September 7, 2021.
II. Summary of SIP Revision and EPA Analysis

This rule is specific to the District’s NNSR requirements. NNSR is a preconstruction review permit program that applies to new major stationary sources or major modifications at existing sources located in a nonattainment area. The specific NNSR requirements for the ozone NAAQS are located in 40 CFR 51.160 through 51.165.

The District’s SIP approved NNSR program, established in Chapters 1 (Air Quality—General Rules) and 2 (Air Quality—General and Nonattainment Area Permits) in Title 20 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR), applies to the construction and modification of major stationary sources in nonattainment areas. In its May 5, 2020 SIP revision, the District certifies that the versions of 20 DCMR Chapters 1 and 2 approved in the SIP are at least as stringent as the Federal NNSR requirements for the Washington Area. EPA last approved revisions to the District’s major NNSR SIP on July 5, 2019. In that action, EPA approved revisions to the District’s SIP which made DOE’s NNSR program consistent with Federal requirements. 84 FR 32072, July 5, 2019. No public comments were received on the NPRM.

III. Final Action

EPA is amending the District’s May 5, 2020 SIP revision addressing the NNSR requirements for the 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS for the Washington Area. EPA has concluded that the District’s submission fulfills the 40 CFR 51.1114 requirements revision, meets the requirements of CAA section 110 and 172 and the minimum SIP requirements of 40 CFR 51.165.

IV. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

A. General Requirements

Under the CAA, the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the CAA 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 CAA. 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 43235, 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 CAA; 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, this rule does not have tribal implications as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000), because the SIP is not approved to apply in Indian country located in the State, and EPA notes that it will not impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law.

B. Submission to Congress and the Comptroller General

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).

C. Petitions for Judicial Review

Under section 307(b)(1) of the CAA, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by October 4, 2021. 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 pertaining to the District’s NNSR program and the 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS 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, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Volatile organic compounds.


Diana Esher,
Acting Regional Administrator, Region III.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the EPA amends 40 CFR part 52 as follows:

PART 52—APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

§ 52.470 Identification of plan.

* * * * * (e) * * *
I. Background

The Fairbanks District Office building is located within a densely developed, mixed residential/commercial area of Fairbanks, Alaska, on BLM-managed public lands within the boundaries of the Eastern Interior Field Office along the bank of the Chena River. In addition to visitors to these offices, the public often uses the open space adjacent to the office building to picnic, walk dogs, or access the Chena River. Visitors encounter inconsistent rules regarding appropriate conduct at the Fairbanks District Office administrative site. This inconsistency hampers the BLM’s ability to provide a safe visitor experience and minimize conflicts among users.

These final supplementary rules establish a consistent set of rules for the Fairbanks District Office administrative site. Absent such rules, BLM Law Enforcement Rangers face impediments to preventing acts that compromise public health and safety, such as open fires in proximity to office buildings, overnight/long-term occupancy, unattended domestic animals, and unattended vehicles. The highly urbanized nature of the Fairbanks District Office administrative site, and its location in Class C–E airspace on final approach to Fairbanks International Airport as well as the adjacent State Division of Forestry-Interagency Fire headquarters, make some uses of public lands inappropriate; for example, no person may operate an aerial drone in a manner that interferes with neighboring Forestry helipads (14 CFR 107.43). In addition, enforcing State laws and/or borough ordinances is administratively more difficult for BLM Law Enforcement Rangers than enforcing established BLM rules. The BLM is establishing these supplementary rules under the authority of 43 CFR 8365.1–6, which authorizes BLM State Directors to establish supplementary rules for the protection of persons, property, and public lands and resources. There are currently no existing supplementary rules for the Fairbanks District Office administrative site. The administrative site is all property and lands encompassed within the land parcels managed by the BLM within the Fairbanks North Star Borough, legal address 222 University Avenue, Fairbanks, AK 99709, described as:

Fairbanks Meridian, Alaska
T. 1 S., R. 1 W., Sec. 7, lots 63 and 69.

The area described here aggregates 11.41 acres.

You may obtain a map of the Fairbanks District Office administrative site in Fairbanks, Alaska, by contacting the office (see ADDRESSES) or by accessing the following web page.
https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/71962/510

II. Discussion of Public Comments and Final Supplementary Rules

In general, the BLM uses supplementary rules for permanent, site-specific regulations where general BLM regulations do not meet the specific management needs of a site’s unique characteristics. Most common are rules for recreation areas or administrative sites, such as the Fairbanks District Office administrative site. These final supplementary rules apply to 11.41 acres of BLM-managed public lands comprising the BLM Fairbanks District Office administrative site. These final rules address general public conduct and public safety concerns at the BLM facility.

BLM Law Enforcement Rangers will enforce rules only in relation to BLM-managed lands above the mean high water line of the Chena River. Nothing in these final rules impairs any new or special authority or jurisdiction to BLM Law Enforcement Rangers on or within the navigable waters of the State of Alaska or airspace managed by the Federal Aviation Administration. The final rules seek to minimize conflicts with the Fairbanks District Office administrative site’s year-round heavy use by employees, volunteers, school groups, contractors, and the public.

During the drafting of these rules, which include provisions that address hunting and trapping, the BLM consulted with the Fairbanks Region of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, which did not object. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has closed the Chena...