

Environmental Protection Agency

§ 49.4

Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa and includes the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

§ 49.3 General Tribal Clean Air Act authority.

Tribes meeting the eligibility criteria of § 49.6 shall be treated in the same manner as States with respect to all provisions of the Clean Air Act and implementing regulations, except for those provisions identified in § 49.4 and the regulations that implement those provisions.

§ 49.4 Clean Air Act provisions for which it is not appropriate to treat tribes in the same manner as States.

Tribes will not be treated as States with respect to the following provisions of the Clean Air Act and any implementing regulations thereunder:

(a) Specific plan submittal and implementation deadlines for NAAQS-related requirements, including but not limited to such deadlines in sections 110(a)(1), 172(a)(2), 182, 187, 189, and 191 of the Act.

(b) The specific deadlines associated with the review and revision of implementation plans related to major fuel burning sources in section 124 of the Act.

(c) The mandatory imposition of sanctions under section 179 of the Act because of a failure to submit an implementation plan or required plan element by a specific deadline, or the submittal of an incomplete or disapproved plan or element.

(d) The provisions of section 110(c)(1) of the Act.

(e) Specific visibility implementation plan submittal deadlines established under section 169A of the Act.

(f) Specific implementation plan submittal deadlines related to interstate commissions under sections 169B(e)(2), 184(b)(1) and (c)(5) of the Act. For eligible tribes participating as members of such commissions, the Administrator shall establish those submittal deadlines that are determined to be practicable or, as with other non-participating tribes in an affected transport region, provide for Federal implementation of necessary measures.

(g) Any provisions of the Act requiring as a condition of program approval the demonstration of criminal enforcement authority or any provisions of the Act providing for the delegation of such criminal enforcement authority. Tribes seeking approval of a Clean Air Act program requiring such demonstration may receive program approval if they meet the requirements of § 49.8.

(h) The specific deadline for the submittal of operating permit programs in section 502(d)(1) of the Act.

(i) The mandatory imposition of sanctions under section 502(d)(2)(B) because of failure to submit an operating permit program or EPA disapproval of an operating permit program submittal in whole or part.

(j) The “2 years after the date required for submission of such a program under paragraph (1)” provision in section 502(d)(3) of the Act.

(k) Section 502(g) of the Act, which authorizes a limited interim approval of an operating permit program that substantially meets the requirements of Title V, but is not fully approvable.

(l) The provisions of section 503(c) of the Act that direct permitting authorities to establish a phased schedule assuring that at least one-third of the permit applications submitted within the first full year after the effective date of an operating permit program (or a partial or interim program) will be acted on by the permitting authority over a period not to exceed three years after the effective date.

(m) The provisions of section 507(a) of the Act that specify a deadline for the submittal of plans for establishing a small business stationary source technical and environmental compliance assistance program.

(n) The provisions of section 507(e) of the Act that direct the establishment of a Compliance Advisory Panel.

(o) The provisions of section 304 of the Act that, read together with section 302(e) of the Act, authorize any person who provides the minimum required advance notice to bring certain civil actions in the Federal district courts against States in their capacity as States.

(p) The provisions of section 502(b)(6) of the Act that require that review of a final permit action under the Title V

permitting program be “judicial” and “in State court,” and the provisions of section 502(b)(7) of the Act that require that review of a failure on the part of the permitting authority to act on permit applications or renewals by the time periods specified in section 503 of the Act be “judicial” and “in State court.”

(q) The provision of section 105(a)(1) that limits the maximum Federal share for grants to pollution control agencies to three-fifths of the cost of implementing programs for the prevention and control of air pollution or implementation of national primary and secondary ambient air quality standards.

§ 49.5 Tribal requests for additional Clean Air Act provisions for which it is not appropriate to treat tribes in the same manner as States.

Any tribe may request that the Administrator specify additional provisions of the Clean Air Act for which it would be inappropriate to treat tribes in general in the same manner as States. Such request should clearly identify the provisions at issue and should be accompanied with a statement explaining why it is inappropriate to treat tribes in the same manner as States with respect to such provisions.

§ 49.6 Tribal eligibility requirements.

Sections 301(d)(2) and 302(r), 42 U.S.C. 7601(d)(2) and 7602(r), authorize the Administrator to treat an Indian tribe in the same manner as a State for the Clean Air Act provisions identified in § 49.3 if the Indian tribe meets the following criteria:

- (a) The applicant is an Indian tribe recognized by the Secretary of the Interior;
- (b) The Indian tribe has a governing body carrying out substantial governmental duties and functions;
- (c) The functions to be exercised by the Indian tribe pertain to the management and protection of air resources within the exterior boundaries of the reservation or other areas within the tribe’s jurisdiction; and
- (d) The Indian tribe is reasonably expected to be capable, in the EPA Regional Administrator’s judgment, of

carrying out the functions to be exercised in a manner consistent with the terms and purposes of the Clean Air Act and all applicable regulations.

§ 49.7 Request by an Indian tribe for eligibility determination and Clean Air Act program approval.

(a) An Indian tribe may apply to the EPA Regional Administrator for a determination that it meets the eligibility requirements of § 49.6 for Clean Air Act program approval. The application shall concisely describe how the Indian tribe will meet each of the requirements of § 49.6 and should include the following information:

- (1) A statement that the applicant is an Indian tribe recognized by the Secretary of the Interior.
- (2) A descriptive statement demonstrating that the applicant is currently carrying out substantial governmental duties and powers over a defined area. This statement should:
 - (i) Describe the form of the tribal government;
 - (ii) Describe the types of government functions currently performed by the tribal governing body such as, but not limited to, the exercise of police powers affecting (or relating to) the health, safety, and welfare of the affected population; taxation; and the exercise of the power of eminent domain; and
 - (iii) Identify the source of the tribal government’s authority to carry out the governmental functions currently being performed.

(3) A descriptive statement of the Indian tribe’s authority to regulate air quality. For applications covering areas within the exterior boundaries of the applicant’s reservation the statement must identify with clarity and precision the exterior boundaries of the reservation including, for example, a map and a legal description of the area. For tribal applications covering areas outside the boundaries of a reservation the statement should include:

- (i) A map or legal description of the area over which the application asserts authority; and
- (ii) A statement by the applicant’s legal counsel (or equivalent official) that describes the basis for the tribe’s assertion of authority (including the