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Clean Air Act: Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality Announces Proposed Infrastructure and National Air Ambient Quality Standard State Implementation Plans

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The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") announced it is proposing revisions to the Arkansas State Implementation Plan ("SIP") to address:

...requirements under Clean Air Act §§ 110(a)(1) and 110(a)(2) for the 2006 NAAQS for PM2.5, 2008 NAAQS for O3, 2008 NAAQS for Pb, 2010 NAAQS for NO2, 2010 NAAQS for SO2, and the 2012 PM2.5 NAAQS.

ADEQ states that the proposed SIP revision also addresses requirements for a National Ambient Air Quality Standard ("NAAQS") SIP under Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-318 and establishes NAAQS evaluation requirements for minor new source review permitting actions.

The Clean Air Act provides that states are primarily responsible for ensuring attainment and maintenance of the NAAQS once the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") has established them. Each state is therefore required to formulate, subject to EPA approval, a SIP designed to achieve each NAAQS.

The SIPs contain the measures and actions the state proposes to undertake to attain each NAAQS. These measures or actions must be enforceable through state regulations and typically include emission limits applicable to certain types of stationary sources. The SIP and subsequent revisions must be reviewed and approved by EPA for determination that the criteria set forth in Section 110 of the Clean Air Act are met.

ADEQ is accepting written or electronic comments till 4:30 p.m. on February 27th.

A link with information on how to submit comments can be found here and a link to a 606-page document entitled "Revisions to the Arkansas State Implementation Plan - National Ambient Air Quality Standards Infrastructure SIPS and NAAQS SIP per Ark. Code Ann § 8-4-318" can be found here.