

February 20, 2024

Ms. Ginger Vagenas
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Submitted electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>

Dear Ms. Vagenas:

The National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA)¹ respectfully requests a 30-day extension of the public comment period on EPA's recently proposed rule, "Air Plan Disapproval; California; Los Angeles-South Coast Air Basin; 1997 8-Hour Ozone," 89 Fed. Reg. 7320 (Feb. 2, 2024), Docket ID No. EPA-R09-OAR-2023-0626. Currently, comments are due on March 4, 2024. NACAA asks that EPA extend the deadline to April 3, 2024.

The proposed rule concerns a State Implementation Plan (SIP) submitted by the State of California to meet a Clean Air Act (CAA) requirement for the 1997 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) in the Los Angeles-South Coast Air Basin, California nonattainment area. The submittal, "Final Contingency Measure Plan – Planning for Attainment of the 1997 80 ppb 8-hour Ozone Standard in the South Coast Air Basin," addresses the CAA's requirements for submittal of contingency measures that will be implemented if emission reductions from anticipated technologies associated with the area's 1997 ozone NAAQS attainment demonstration are not achieved.

Although this particular proposed rule relates to the Los Angeles-South Coast Air Basin nonattainment area it has far broader implications, potentially affecting any nonattainment area in the country required to prepare and submit a contingency measure (CM) plan for any ozone or particulate matter NAAQS. Therefore, state and local air agencies require additional time to evaluate this EPA proposed action and develop informed comments on it. Extending the public comment period by 30 days would allow agencies to more thoroughly review and consider the proposal while still allowing the process to proceed in a timely manner.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please contact me or Nancy Kruger, NACAA's Deputy Director.

Sincerely,



Miles Keogh
Executive Director, NACAA

cc: Joseph Goffman (EPA OAR)
Tomás Carbonell (EPA OAR)
Scott Mathias (EPA OAR OAQPS)

¹ NACAA is the national, nonpartisan, nonprofit association of 157 air pollution control agencies in 40 states, including 117 local air agencies, the District of Columbia and five territories.