

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC HEARING

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is offering an opportunity for public comment on the proposed *Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan for the West Virginia Portion of the Martinsburg-Hagerstown, WV-MD 1997 PM_{2.5} Nonattainment Area*. The proposal concerns two inter-related actions regarding the West Virginia portion of the nonattainment area, comprising Berkeley County. First, DEP is requesting that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) redesignate the area to attainment pursuant to the provisions of the Clean Air Act, section 107. Second, DEP is asking that EPA concurrently approve, as a revision to the State Implementation Plan (SIP), the related maintenance plan which demonstrates that the area will continue to meet the PM_{2.5} air quality standards for at least ten more years. DEP is expressly soliciting comment on whether the proposed maintenance plan adequately meets the requirements of the Clean Air Act, section 175A, as well as any relevant comments regarding the incorporation of the finalized maintenance plan into the West Virginia SIP.

Upon completion of the public comment period, and after addressing any received written comments, the DEP will submit the final documentation to the EPA as a revision to the SIP. This proposed revision is considered noncontroversial in nature. Therefore, a public hearing will be held only if requested in writing, and the written request is received by July 15, 2013. Any person who requests a public hearing should identify any substantive issue they intend to raise in a hearing. If properly requested, the hearing will be held on July 23, 2013 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the address below, and the public comment period will be extended until the close of the hearing. A public notice announcing whether a hearing shall be held will be posted in the West Virginia State Register published on July 19, 2013.

Copies of the proposed SIP revision and supporting documentation may be reviewed at the DEP Division of Air Quality headquarters at 601 57th Street, SE, Charleston, WV 25304. Hours of operation are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for holidays. Copies may alternatively be reviewed at the Eastern Panhandle Regional Planning & Development Council at 400 W. Stephen Street, Suite 301, Martinsburg, WV 25401. Hours of operation are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for holidays. Scheduled holidays during the comment period include Thursday, June 20th and Thursday, July 4th. The relevant documents may also be accessed electronically on the Division of Air Quality website under the public notice and comment section: www.dep.wv.gov/daq/.

Send written comments to be included in the formal record to John A. Benedict, Director, Division of Air Quality at the above address. Please identify the document to which the comments apply, the commenter's name, address and telephone number. Written comments will also be accepted for inclusion in the formal record by mail, facsimile (304-926-0479), e-mail (Tammy.L.Mowrer@wv.gov) or other delivery to the Division of Air Quality if received by 5:00 p.m. on July 15, 2013.

The Martinsburg area was designated as nonattainment for the 1997 PM_{2.5} annual National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) in the January 5, 2005 Federal Register [70 FR 944], effective April 5, 2005. On November 20, 2009, in accordance with Section 179(c)(1) of the CAA, EPA determined that the Martinsburg-Hagerstown, WV-MD PM_{2.5} nonattainment area had attained the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS by the applicable attainment date of April 5, 2010 [74 FR 60199]. DEP demonstrates that the measured air quality improvement has been achieved through federally enforceable emission reduction measures. Further, DEP shows that with expected growth and federally enforceable controls, the area will continue attainment of the NAAQS for at least ten years.