

Public Notice
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Designation Recommendations for Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂)

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) is soliciting comments regarding the extent of Ohio's nonattainment areas for the revised sulfur dioxide (SO₂) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). On June 2, 2010 U.S. EPA replaced the 24-hour and annual standards with a new short-term standard based on the 3-year average of the 99th percentile of the yearly distribution of 1-hour daily maximum SO₂ concentrations. U.S. EPA established the level of the new 1-hour standard at 75 parts per billion (ppb). Ohio does not currently have any areas designated as nonattainment for SO₂.

Comments received will be used to formulate the State's formal recommendation proposal to U.S. EPA due by June 3, 2011. Ohio EPA's preliminary recommendations to address the revised SO₂ standard are as follows:

- Recommend the following areas be designated nonattainment: Belmont County, Columbiana County, Cuyahoga County, Jefferson County, Lake County, Meigs County and Cheshire Township in Gallia County, and Morgan County and Waterford Township in Washington County;
- Recommend that the following counties be designated attainment: Ashland, Brown, Carroll, Champaign, Clinton, Crawford, Darke, Defiance, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Geauga, Hancock, Hardin, Harrison, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Huron, Jackson, Knox, Logan, Madison, Medina, Mercer, Miami, Morrow, Noble, Perry, Portage, Preble, Putnam, Vinton, Warren, Williams, and Wyandot.
- Recommend that the remaining counties in Ohio be designated unclassifiable.

These actions must be noticed to allow public comment and to satisfy U.S. EPA requirements for public involvement in state implementation plan related activities. Comments should be submitted on or before May 19, 2011 at the following address:

E-mail: Jennifer.hunter@epa.state.oh.us

Mailing address: Jennifer Hunter
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, DAPC
Lazarus Government Center
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049
Phone: (614) 728-1743

Pursuant to Section 119.03 of the Ohio Revised Code, public hearings on these recommendations will be conducted on the following dates at the following locations:

May 17, 2011 at 1:30 PM
Parma Heights Library
6206 Pearl Rd.
Parma Heights, Ohio 44130-3086

May 18, 2011 at 1:30 PM
Eastern Gateway Community College
Pugliese Training Center
Rooms 111/113
110 John Scott Highway
Steubenville, OH 43952

May 19, 2011 1:30 PM
Pomeroy Public Library
216 West Main Street
Pomeroy, Ohio 45769

All interested persons are entitled to attend or be represented at the hearing and give written or oral comments on these recommendations. All oral comments presented at the hearing, and all written statements submitted at the hearing or to the above address by the close of business on May 19, 2011, will be considered by Ohio EPA prior to final action on these recommendations. Written statements submitted after May 19, 2011, may be considered as time and circumstances permit, but will not be part of the official record of the hearing.

The SO₂ designation recommendation documentation is available on Ohio EPA DAPC's web page for electronic downloading at: <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/SIP/so2.aspx>

Questions regarding accessing the web site should be directed to Arunee Niamlarb at (614) 728-1342; other questions or comments about this document should be directed to Jennifer Hunter at (614) 644-3696, Jennifer.hunter@epa.state.oh.us or mailed to Jennifer Hunter at the above address.