

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ) UPDATE

February 29, 2024, RAQPAC Meeting

Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Attainment Demonstration and Reasonable Further Progress State Implementation Plan (SIP) Revisions, and Associated Rules

- On November 29, 2023, the commission approved the proposal of the executive director's recommended HGB severe area attainment demonstration and reasonable further progress SIP revisions and proposed rulemakings to 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 115 and Chapter 117.
- The HGB 2008 eight-hour ozone NAAQS SIP proposal documents are available at the [HGB Latest Ozone Planning Activities](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/sip/hgb/hgb-latest-ozone) webpage (<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/sip/hgb/hgb-latest-ozone>).
- The TCEQ held a public hearing in Houston on January 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Houston-Galveston Area Council. The public comment period closed on January 16, 2024 and staff are evaluating comments received during the public comment period.
- The anticipated adoption date for these SIPs is April 24, 2024.

Revised Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}) NAAQS

- On February 7, 2024, EPA finalized its revision of the annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS to 9.0 µg/m³.
- Estimated timeline as provided by EPA (https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/pm-naaqs-designations-memo_2.7.2024_-jg-signed.pdf).
 - Final NAAQS revision promulgated: February 7, 2024
 - State designations due to EPA: February 7, 2025
 - 120-day letter from EPA to Governor: Early October 2025
 - Anticipated final designations: February 6, 2026
 - Attainment date: December 2032
- TCEQ plans to hold informational meetings after EPA publishes the final NAAQS. Staff also plan to take informal public comment on the state designations considered by the commission before being sent to the Governor for his consideration for submittal to EPA.

Environmental Trade Fair and Conference (ETFC)

- The ETFC will be held May 14-15, 2024, at the Austin Convention Center. During the two-day Conference, agency staff will lead over 100 courses and discussions. Topics include air and water permitting, oil and gas, industrial and solid waste management, compliance and enforcement, and remediation programs.
- Attendee and exhibitor registration is open. For more information, please visit the [Environmental Trade Fair and Conference](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/events/etfc/etf.html) webpage (<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/events/etfc/etf.html>).

Quadrennial Review

- The TCEQ is conducting a review of agency rules in the Texas Administrative Code (TAC). This process is undertaken to comply with statutory requirements at Texas Government Code, Section 2001.039 and the regulations at 1 TAC Chapter 91, Subchapter D. The purpose of rule review is to determine if the need for TCEQ's rules continues to exist and is limited to consideration of its rules for re-adoption, re-adoption with amendments, or repeal every four

years. During this review, the commission will assess whether the reasons for initially adopting its rules continue to exist. Recommended changes to the rules in each applicable chapter of the TAC will not be considered for rule amendments as part of this review. Any such changes may be considered in a future rulemaking action by the commission.

- To view the TAC chapters the commission is currently taking comment on, please visit the *Comment Online with TCEQ Public Comments* link on TCEQ's [Rules and Rulemaking](#) webpage (https://www.tceq.texas.gov/rules/rules_rulemaking.html). Thirty-day public comment periods for the chapters being reviewed open as notices are published in the *Texas Register*.
- To view the complete rule review schedule, please visit the *View TCEQ's Rule Review Plan* link on TCEQ's [Rules and Rulemaking](#) webpage.