



New Source Review & PM2.5 NAAQS Rulemaking

July 9, 2025

Using the Tools in GoToWebinar

Ask a question

Raise your hand

Unmute

Turn on Closed Captioning



Rulemaking Purpose

- (1) to adopt Clean Air Act (CAA) New Source Review (NSR) requirements for Serious ozone nonattainment areas,
- (2) to improve the clarity of the minor NSR rules,
- (3) to cure deficiencies identified by EPA in its March 18, 2015, proposed limited approval/disapproval of a revision to the SIP designed to update Arizona's federally approved NSR program,
- (4) to update its rule establishing the annual ambient air quality standard for PM_{2.5} to reflect recent changes by EPA, and
- (5) to fix typos and incorrect cross-references that the Department has identified in various rules.

Rules Under Consideration for Amendment

R18-2-101

R18-2-311

R18-2-201

R18-2-312

R18-2-301

R18-2-334

R18-2-301

R18-2-405

R18-2-306

R18-2-503

R18-2-310.01

https://azdeq.gov/rulemaking/NSR_PM25NAAQS

Serious Ozone Area Nonattainment NSR Amendments

- The Phoenix-Mesa Nonattainment Area (NAA) for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) is currently classified as Moderate.
- When this rulemaking was initiated it was anticipated that Phoenix would be reclassified to Serious, because it failed to meet the NAAQS by the Aug. 3, 2024 deadline.
- ADEQ's NNSR program applies in the portions of Pinal and Gila Counties included in the Phoenix-Mesa NAA.
- The state's NNSR program therefore would have to satisfy the Serious NAA NNSR requirements in CAA § 182(c) in order for EPA to approve a Serious area SIP for the NAA.

Serious Ozone Area Nonattainment NSR Amendments

- EPA has since indicated that it may be possible to find that the Phoenix-Mesa NAA attained the NAAQS by the 2024 deadline, if it can be demonstrated that the area would have attained but for international transport under CAA § 179B.
- ADEQ rules currently satisfy all but one of the CAA § 182(c) requirements for Serious area NNSR. The state's rules do not implement the requirements in CAA § 182(c)(6) for calculating whether emissions increases constitute a major modification to a major source.
- ADEQ proposes to proceed with the NNSR amendments to correct this omission, so that the state's rules will fully satisfy NNSR requirements if the Phoenix Mesa NAA is ever reclassified to Serious.
- The Serious area requirements will not apply unless and until the area is reclassified.

Serious Ozone Area Nonattainment NSR Amendments Rule Language

R18-2-405. Special Rule for Major Sources of VOC or Nitrogen Oxides in Ozone Nonattainment Areas Classified as Serious or Severe

....

- C. Increased emissions of volatile organic compounds or nitrogen oxides resulting from any physical change in, or change in the method of operation of, a stationary source shall constitute a significant net emission increase, if the increase in net emissions of volatile organic compounds or nitrogen oxides from the source equals or exceeds 25 tons when aggregated with all other net increases in emissions from the source over any period of 5 consecutive calendar years which includes the calendar year in which such increase occurred.

Serious Ozone Area Nonattainment NSR Amendments Effect

- In Moderate and below ozone NAAs and NAAs other than ozone: Both the emissions increase and the net emissions increase must exceed the "significant level."
- In Serious and above ozone NAAs: It is sufficient for the net emissions increase over five years to exceed the significant level.
- Example from NPRM:

New PM_{2.5} NAAQS Amendments

- On Feb. 7, 2024, EPA published a final rule to amend the NAAQS for fine particulate pollution, also known as fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}).
- EPA revised the level of primary, or health-based, annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS from 12.0 micrograms per cubic meter (μg/m³) to 9.0 μg/m³.
- ADEQ is proposing to amend R18-2-201(B)(1)(a) to reflect this change.

Minor NSR Amendments

- ADEQ adopted a minor NSR program (R18-2-334) in 2012.
- Ongoing Stakeholder concern: what is required for air pollution controls and limitations to be considered when demonstrating non-interference with the NAAQS?
- In another rulemaking addressing the subject of voluntary permit conditions generally, ADEQ is proposing to add a new section R18-2-306.03 to authorize the inclusion of voluntary limits designed to assure compliance with the NAAQS, as well as other air quality requirements. <https://azdeq.gov/voluntaryaprulemaking>
- On adoption, this rule will establish explicit authority to include limits assuring that a source's emissions will comply with minor NSR. In this rulemaking, ADEQ is proposing to amend R18-2-334 to make its language consistent with the proposed new rule.

2012 NSR SIP Deficiencies Amendments

- On Oct. 29, 2012, ADEQ submitted a SIP revision containing rule revisions designed to bring the state's NSR SIP into full compliance with the CAA.
- EPA published a Notice of Final Rulemaking granting limited approval/limited disapproval ("LA/LD") of ADEQ's submittal.
- ADEQ corrected nearly all of the deficiencies identified in EPA's LA/LD and obtained final approval of its major and minor NSR programs in 2018 and 2021, respectively.
- Three rules, R18-2-310.01, R18-2-311, and R18-2-312, still need to be amended to address deficiencies identified by EPA.
 - Section R18-2-310.01 needs to be amended to remove a cross-reference R18-2-310.
 - Sections R18-2-311 and R18-2-312 establish emission testing requirements for state emission limits. ADEQ proposes to add a requirement for EPA approval of equivalent and alternative methods to each rule.

ADEQ Contact

Steven Burr

E-Mail | airplanning@azdeq.gov

Phone | 602-771-2275





Questions?