

USEPA's Reconsideration of the 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)

Timing:

- January 16, 2010: Proposal for reconsidering the 8-hour NAAQS was signed
- January 19, 2010: Proposal will be printed in the Federal Register, starting a 60 day comment period
- February 2, 2010: Public hearing to be held in Arlington, VA and Houston, TX
- February 4, 2010: Public hearing to be held in Sacramento, CA
- March 20, 2010: Public comment period closes
- April/May 2010: USEPA proposes final standard
- August 31, 2010: USEPA issues final rule on revised standard

- January 2011: State nonattainment recommendations to USEPA due
- August 2011: USEPA issues final nonattainment designations
- December 2013: Attainment demonstration SIPs due
- 2014-2031: Attainment dates, based on severity of problem

The USEPA will be basing the final designations on ozone air quality from 2008 through 2010. Based on a quick review of the ozone design values based on 2007 through 2009 air quality monitoring data, the following areas would be classified as nonattainment depending on the level of the final standard:

- 0.070 ppm: Chicago, Metro-East St. Louis, and Decatur, Bloomington and Peoria
- 0.065 ppm: The above and the Quincy, Champaign, Effingham, and Rockford areas, and Hamilton, Macoupin, and Randolph counties
- 0.060 ppm: The above and the Rock Island and Springfield areas.