Message

From: Mooney, John [Mooney.John@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/10/2020 6:24:33 PM
To: Palma, Elizabeth [Palma.Elizabeth@epa.gov]; Garcia, David [Garcia.David@epa.gov]; Skelley, Dana [Skelley.Dana@epa.gov]
CC: Keas, Ashley [keas.ashley@epa.gov]; Kornylak, Vera S. [Kornylak.Vera@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: SO2 Redesignations Proposal Signed on August 6 - Website Now Live

Thanks Beth.

From: Palma, Elizabeth <Palma.Elizabeth@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 1:22 PM
To: Mooney, John <Mooney.John@epa.gov>; Garcia, David <Garcia.David@epa.gov>; Skelley, Dana <Skelley.Dana@epa.gov>
Cc: Keas, Ashley <keas.ashley@epa.gov>; Kornylak, Vera S. <Kornylak.Vera@epa.gov>
Subject: SO2 Redesignations Proposal Signed on August 6 - Website Now Live

Good Afternoon John, David and Dana -

As you may already know, on August 6, 2020, OAR signed the below proposed SO_2 redesignation action, which covers areas in each of your regions. Although HQ led this effort because the action involves multiple areas and multiple regions, your staff were essential in the development of this consolidated action. To support this action, HQ will issue a press release in addition to any regional-specific press releases. Our communications staff have already contacted your press offices on this front. This information is now available at the web link below. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.
Thank you,
Beth

Beth W. Palma, Group Leader
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Proposed Redesignation of Certain Unclassifiable Areas for the 2010 1-hour Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) Standard
On August 6, 2020, EPA proposed to redesignate to "attainment/unclassifiable" the:

- unclassifiable portions of Franklin and St. Charles Counties in Missouri;
- entirety of Lancaster County in Nebraska;
- entirety of Gallia County and the unclassifiable portion of Meigs County in Ohio; and
- entirety of Milam County in Texas.

EPA designated each of these areas as unclassifiable in round two of designations for sulfur dioxide (SO2) National Ambient Air Quality Standards that were published in 2016. At that time, EPA did not have enough information to determine if these areas attained the 2010 standard for SO2. Since then, the states added additional monitoring to better understand air quality in those areas. EPA now has the 3 years of data required to determine that these areas are meeting the standards. Currently available information shows that these areas are meeting the 2010 1-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for SO2. EPA had received

requests for redesignation from the states of Nebraska, Ohio and Texas, which EPA proposes to approve. EPA has not received a formal request to redesignate the Missouri area, so the Agency is concurrently notifying the Governor of its recommendation that the area be redesignated to attainment/unclassifiable consistent with the Clean Air Act (section 107(d)(3)(A)) based on the currently available information that demonstrates attainment of the 2010 1-hour SO_2 NAAQS.
More information is available at https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations/sulfur-dioxide-designations-regulatory-actions

https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations/proposed-redesignation-unclassifiable-areas-missouri-nebraska-ohio-and

Questions & Answers

1. **Does this action create any new requirements on states?**
   No, this action does not impose any additional regulatory requirements on sources beyond those imposed by state law.

2. **What is the schedule for this action?**
   This proposed action requests public comment for 30 days after the notice is published in the *Federal Register*. There is no court-ordered deadline for signature of the final rule.

3. **Why isn't EPA redesignating the other remaining unclassifiable areas?**

   The four areas covered in this notice have newly available monitoring data from monitors deployed to characterize air quality in the area around sources affected by the EPA's SO2 Data Requirements Rule. Specifically, these areas all now have complete, valid 3-year design values for the 2017-2019 period that attain the NAAQS. At this time, there is no available information for the remaining unclassifiable areas to support a redesignation to attainment/unclassifiable.