



Coachella Valley Attainment Plan for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone Standard

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

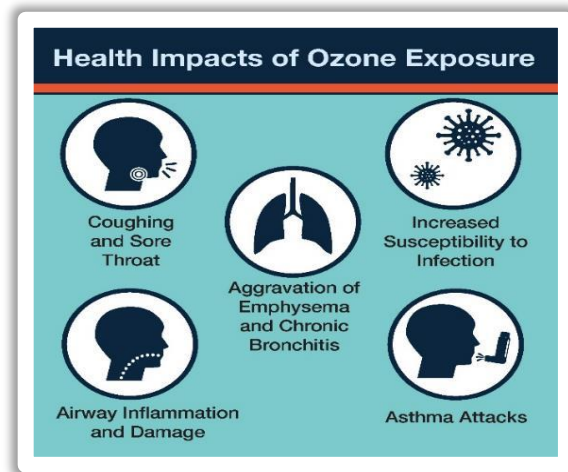
FACT SHEET

What standard does this Plan address?

The Plan addresses the 2008 8-hour ozone national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS or standard) of 75 parts per billion (ppb) in the Coachella Valley. The Coachella Valley currently fails to meet that standard.

What are the health effects associated with ozone exposure and how is it formed?

- ❖ The South Coast Air Basin and Coachella Valley have among the highest levels of ozone in the nation.
- ❖ Ozone exposure is associated with adverse health impacts, including respiratory inflammation and worsening asthma symptoms.
- ❖ Ozone is not emitted directly into the atmosphere, but is created by chemical reactions from its precursor pollutants including oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) in the presence of sunlight.
- ❖ Major sources of NO_x include aircraft, trucks, ships, trains, combustion equipment, and power plants.



Why are we doing this Plan now?

When U.S. EPA determines that a region fails to meet ozone standards, they classify the region in different categories of nonattainment depending on the levels of ozone in the region. The Coachella Valley was originally classified as “severe-15” nonattainment for the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS with an attainment date of July 20, 2027. The 2016 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) included a strategy to attain the standard and was submitted to U.S. EPA in 2017. In November 2022, South Coast AQMD submitted a request to reclassify the Coachella Valley to “extreme” nonattainment with a new attainment date of July 20, 2032, as allowed under the Clean Air Act. This “bump up” to the higher classification was necessary to resolve a transportation conformity lockdown impacting billions of dollars’ worth of transportation projects. This reclassification triggered the need to develop a new plan to demonstrate attainment by the new due date and comply with other planning requirements. This Plan provides the strategy and the underlying technical analysis for how the Coachella Valley will meet the 2008 8-hour ozone standard by the attainment year of 2031.

What will be in the control strategy?

- ❖ The control strategy for meeting the 2008 8-hour ozone standard in Coachella Valley relies on the continued implementation of adopted rules and regulations by South Coast AQMD and CARB.



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FACT SHEET (Continued)

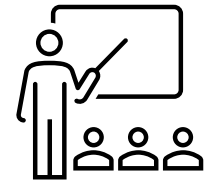
What will be in the Plan?

The Coachella Valley Ozone Plan will address “extreme” area planning requirements established by the Clean Air Act. The following is a summary of major elements included in the Plan:

- ❖ Emissions Inventory – a comprehensive inventory of all stationary and mobile sources of emissions
- ❖ Control Strategy – the rules and regulations that will reduce emissions to attain the standard
- ❖ Reasonably Available Control Measures/Reasonably Available Control Technology – analyses that evaluate the stringency of South Coast AQMD’s rules compared to those in other air districts and states
- ❖ Attainment Demonstration – an air quality modeling exercise to show that implementation of the control strategy will result in Coachella Valley meeting the standard by the deadline
- ❖ Reasonable Further Progress – a demonstration that incremental emission reductions will be achieved between the base year and attainment year
- ❖ Motor Vehicle Emissions Budget – the maximum allowable emissions for on-road vehicles

What is the public process?

- ❖ South Coast AQMD is committed to conducting a robust public process and facilitating community engagement for the development of the Coachella Valley Ozone Plan.
- ❖ The Plan will be released in summer for public review, with a 30-day open public comment period.
- ❖ South Coast AQMD staff will hold a Public Consultation Meeting in late summer to solicit information, comments, and suggestions from stakeholders.
- ❖ The Plan will be presented to the AB-617 Eastern Coachella Valley Community Steering Committee on September 5, 2024, the Mobile Source Committee on September 20, 2024, and be heard by the South Coast AQMD’s Governing Board on October 4, 2024. These dates are subject to change.



More Information

For more information, please contact Sang-Mi Lee at (909) 396-3169 or AQMPteam@aqmd.gov, or visit www.aqmd.gov/othersips.



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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