

and Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Each hearing will last two days and is scheduled for February 25 and 26, 2004. Persons wishing to present oral testimony for one or both proposals may speak on either day. Details of the facility sites for the hearings and the starting and ending times will be provided on the web sites for the rulemakings identified under **ADDRESSES** as soon as the information is available.

The EPA's proposed Interstate Air Quality Rule would reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxides in 29 eastern States and the District of Columbia that are significantly contributing to fine particulate matter and 8-hour ozone nonattainment problems in downwind States. Each State would be required to adopt control measures to meet specific statewide emission reduction requirements. The EPA believes that the most cost-effective way for States to achieve the required reductions would be to regulate utilities under a cap-and-trade program similar to EPA's highly successful Acid Rain Program. The proposed Utility Mercury Reductions Rule provides options that would reduce mercury emissions and would set a mandatory, declining cap on the total mercury emissions allowed from utilities nationwide. The proposal also would reduce nickel emissions from utilities. The EPA is coordinating these rulemakings to allow the emissions reductions to be achieved in the most cost-effective manner by sources affected by both actions.

DATES: The public hearings will be held on February 25 and 26, 2004. Please refer to **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for additional information on the public hearings.

ADDRESSES: The hearings will be held concurrently in Chicago, Illinois; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

Written comments on these proposed rules may also be submitted to EPA electronically, by mail, by facsimile, or through hand delivery/courier. Please refer to the proposals for the addresses and detailed instructions.

Documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection at the EPA Docket Center, located at 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room B102, Washington, DC between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. A reasonable fee may be charged for copying. Documents are also available through EPA's electronic Docket system at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket>.

The EPA Web sites for the rulemakings, which will include

information about the public hearings, are at <http://www.epa.gov/interstateairquality> and <http://www.epa.gov/mercury>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you would like to speak at the public hearings or have questions concerning the public hearings, please contact JoAnn Allman at the address given below under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. Questions concerning the Interstate Air Quality Rule should be addressed to Scott Mathias, U.S. EPA, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Air Quality Strategies and Standards Division (C539-01), Research Triangle Park, NC 27711, telephone number (919) 541-5310, e-mail at mathias.scott@epa.gov. Questions concerning the Utility Mercury Reductions Rule should be addressed to William Maxwell, U.S. EPA, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Emission Standards Division, Combustion Group (C439-01), Research Triangle Park, NC 27711, telephone number (919) 541-5430, fax number (919) 541-5450, e-mail at maxwell.bill@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Hearings

The public hearings will provide interested parties the opportunity to present data, views, or arguments concerning the proposed rules. The EPA may ask clarifying questions during the oral presentations, but will not respond to the presentations at that time. Written statements and supporting information submitted during the comment period will be considered with the same weight as any oral comments and supporting information presented at the public hearings. Written comments must be postmarked by the last day of the comment period, as specified in the proposals.

If you would like to present oral testimony at the hearings, please notify JoAnn Allman, U.S. EPA, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Air Quality Strategies and Standards Division, C539-02, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711, telephone (919) 541-1815, e-mail allman.joann@epa.gov no later than February 20, 2004. She will provide you with a specific time and date to speak. Oral testimony will be limited to 10 minutes for each commenter to address either or both proposals. We will not be providing equipment for commenters to show overhead slides or make computerized slide presentations unless we receive special requests in advance. Commenters should notify JoAnn Allman if they will need specific

equipment. The hearing schedules, including lists of speakers, will be posted on EPA's Web pages for the proposals at <http://www.epa.gov/interstateairquality> and <http://www.epa.gov/mercury> prior to the hearing. Verbatim transcripts of the hearings and written statements will be included in the rulemaking dockets.

How Can I Get Copies of This Document and Other Related Information?

The EPA has established the official public docket for the Interstate Air Quality Rule under Docket ID No. OAR-2003-0053. The EPA has established the official public docket for the Utility Mercury Reductions Rule under Docket ID No. OAR-2002-0056. The EPA has also developed web sites for the proposals at the addresses given above. Please refer to the proposals, which were published in the **Federal Register** on January 30, 2004, for detailed information on accessing information related to the proposals.

Dated: January 28, 2004.

Anna B. Duncan,

Acting Director, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards.

[FR Doc. 04-2152 Filed 1-30-04; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[TN-257-200402(b); FRL-7616-1]

Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans, Tennessee: Knox County Maintenance Plan Update

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The EPA is proposing to approve revisions to the Tennessee State Implementation Plan (SIP) submitted by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) on August 20, 2003. This SIP revision satisfies the requirement of the Clean Air Act as amended in 1990 (CAA) for the 10-year update of the Knox County 1-hour ozone maintenance plan. In the final rules section of this **Federal Register**, the EPA is approving the State's SIP revision as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial submittal and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no significant material and adverse comments are received in

response to this rule, no further activity is contemplated. If EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this rule. The EPA will not institute a second comment period on this document. Any parties interested in commenting on this document should do so at this time.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before March 3, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by mail to: Anne Marie Hoffman, Regulatory Development Section, Air Planning Branch, Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, 61 Forsyth Street, SW., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960. Comments may also be submitted electronically, or through hand delivery/courier. Please follow the detailed instructions described in the direct final rule, **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** (sections I.B.1 through 3.) which is published in the rules section of this **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anne Marie Hoffman, Regulatory Development Section, Air Planning Branch, Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, 61 Forsyth Street, SW., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960. The telephone number is (404) 562-9074. Ms. Hoffman can also be reached via electronic mail at hoffman.annemarie@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For additional information see the direct final rule which is published in the rules section of this **Federal Register**.

Dated: January 20, 2004.

A. Stanley Meiburg,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 4.

[FR Doc. 04-1971 Filed 1-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[R01-OAR-2004-NH-0001; A-1-FRL-7616-9]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Hampshire; Control of Gasoline Fuel Parameters; Removal of the Reformulated Gasoline Program From Four Counties in New Hampshire

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision submitted by the State of New Hampshire on October 31, 2002 and October 3, 2003, establishing fuel emissions performance requirements for gasoline distributed in southern New Hampshire which includes Hillsborough, Merrimack, Rockingham, and Strafford Counties. New Hampshire has developed these fuel requirements to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA). EPA is proposing to approve New Hampshire's fuel requirements into the New Hampshire SIP because EPA has found that the requirements are necessary for southern New Hampshire to achieve the national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for ozone. The intended effect of this action is to propose approval of New Hampshire's request to control fuel emissions performance requirements in these four southern counties. In addition, should EPA approve this action, reformulated gasoline (RFG) will no longer be required in this area 90 days after final approval in accordance with the procedures set forth in 40 CFR Section 80.72. This action is being taken under section 110 of the Clean Air Act.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before March 3, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to David Conroy, Unit Manager, Air Quality Planning, Office of Ecosystem Protection (mail code CAQ), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA-New England, One Congress Street, Suite 1100, Boston, MA 02114-2023. Comments may also be submitted electronically, or through hand delivery/courier, please follow the detailed instructions described in Part (I)(B)(1)(i) through (iv) of the Supplementary Information section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert C. Judge, Air Quality Unit, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA New England Regional Office, One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (CAQ), Boston, MA 02114-2023, (617) 918-1045, judge.robert@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. How Can I Get Copies of This Document and Other Related Information?

1. *The Regional Office has established an official public rulemaking file available for inspection at the Regional Office. EPA has established an official*

public rulemaking file for this action under Regional Material EDocket Number R01-OAR-2004-NH-0001. The official public file consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received, and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public rulemaking file does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public rulemaking file is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the Office of Ecosystem Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA New England Regional Office, One Congress Street, Suite 1100, Boston, MA. EPA requests that if at all possible, you contact the contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section to schedule your inspection. The Regional Office's official hours of business are Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 4:30 excluding federal holidays.

2. *Electronic Access.* An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA's Regional Material EDocket (RME) system, a part of EPA's electronic docket and comment system. You may access RME at <http://docket.epa.gov/rmepub/index.jsp> to review associated documents and submit comments. Once in the system, select "quick search," then key in the appropriate RME Docket identification number.

You may also access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the Regulations.gov web site located at <http://www.regulations.gov> where you can find, review, and submit comments on Federal rules that have been published in the **Federal Register**, the Government's legal newspaper, and are open for comment.

For public commenters, it is important to note that EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing at the EPA Regional Office, as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, CBI, or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. When EPA identifies a comment containing copyrighted material, EPA will provide a reference to that material in the version of the comment that is placed in the official public rulemaking file. The entire printed comment, including the copyrighted material, will be available at the Regional Office for public inspection.