

To be eligible for fertility services, including IVF, the Veteran must have a service-connected condition that results in the inability to procreate without the use of fertility treatment, as defined above. *NOTE: For additional eligibility information, see appendix A.*

30. VHA Directive 1334, paragraph 7.c.(1), Practices and Procedures, is revised to read:

VA will cover costs of cryopreservation and storage at an independent community laboratory indefinitely up through the end of life of the eligible Veterans. Storage of cryopreserved gametes and embryos will take place at an independent facility in the community, per guidelines outlined in appendix A.

31. VHA Directive 1334, paragraph 7.c.(3), Practices and Procedures, is revised to read:

VA will pay the costs of cryopreservation and storage of cryopreserved oocytes, sperm and embryos indefinitely until the end of the life the eligible Veteran, or until the cryopreserved oocytes, sperm, or embryos are transferred to a third party (for any purpose outside this treatment program).

32. VHA Directive 1334, paragraph 7.e.(1), Practices and Procedures, is struck from the directive.

Gestational surrogacy, as defined in VHA Directive 1334, will remain outside the scope of VA IVF Services. Although the amended DoD Policy allows for a third-party gestational carrier in limited instances, Congress's authorization for VA to provide fertility counseling and treatment, including ART, is limited to providing these services to a covered veteran and the spouse of a covered veteran. Therefore, VA may not provide IVF services to a person who is neither the covered veteran nor the spouse of a covered Veteran.

33. VHA Directive 1334, Appendix A, Eligibility Criteria, is revised to read:

1. To be eligible for In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) under 38 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 17.380, a Veteran must have a service-connected disability that results in the Veteran's inability to procreate without the use of fertility treatment.

2. Lawful spouses of eligible Veterans are eligible for fertility counseling and treatment under the program pursuant to 38 CFR 17.412.

34. VHA Directive 1334, Appendix B, In Vitro Fertilization Services, comparison table c is revised to strike:

1. "+ lawful eligible spouses" from the "Eligibility" line;
2. "naturally" from the "Service connection" line;
3. the entirety of the "Marital status" line;

4. the entirety of the "Couples" line;
5. "with opposite-sex gametes" from the "IUI" line;
6. "or an eligible Veteran's lawful divorce" from the "Time limits for cryopreservation of gametes" line;
7. "or an eligible Veteran's lawful divorce" from the "Cryopreservation for embryos" line; and
8. "or an eligible Veteran's lawful divorce" from the "Embryo storage paid by VA" line.

Additionally, the "no" from the "Donate sperm" line is revised to "Allowable but not paid for by VA (Veteran pays for non-Veteran sperm preparation or procedure to non-Veteran)."

35. In 38 CFR 17.380, the term "a service-connected disability that results in the inability of the veteran to procreate without the use of fertility treatment" is interpreted to include:

for a female veteran without ovarian function and/or patent uterine cavity, a service-connected injury or illness that prevents the successful fertilization of an egg by sperm, to include the service-connected loss of ovarian function and/or a patent uterine cavity.

Applicability

36. This Instruction applies to decisions to authorize benefits on or after the date of this Instruction, in which a veteran seeks fertility counseling or IVF services under 38 CFR 17.380 and 17.412.

Signing Authority

Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved and signed this document on March 28, 2024, and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Jeffrey M. Martin,

Assistant Director, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2024-07040 Filed 4-3-24; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R09-OAR-2023-0599; FRL-11591-02-R9]

Air Plan Approval; Arizona; Maricopa County Air Quality Department

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking final action to approve revisions to the Maricopa County Air Quality Department (MCAQD) portion of the Arizona State Implementation Plan (SIP). These revisions concern a rule that includes definitions for certain terms that are necessary for the implementation of local rules that regulate sources of air pollution. We are approving a local rule under the Clean Air Act (CAA or the Act).

DATES: This rule is effective May 6, 2024.

ADDRESSES: The EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID No. EPA-R09-OAR-2023-0599. All documents in the docket are listed on the <https://www.regulations.gov> website. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available through <https://www.regulations.gov>, or please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section for additional availability information. If you need assistance in a language other than English or if you are a person with a disability who needs a reasonable accommodation at no cost to you, please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kira Wiesinger, EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne St., San Francisco, CA 94105; phone: (415) 972-3827; email: wiesinger.kira@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Throughout this document, "we," "us" and "our" refer to the EPA.

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I. Proposed Action

On December 27, 2023 (88 FR 89355), the EPA proposed to approve the following rule into the Arizona SIP.

Local agency	Rule #	Rule title	Revised	Submitted
MCAQD	100	General Provisions and Definitions	08/09/2023	08/23/2023

We proposed to approve this rule because we determined that it complies with the relevant CAA requirements. Our proposed action contains more information on the rule and our evaluation.

II. Public Comments and EPA Responses

The EPA’s proposed action provided a 30-day public comment period. During this period, we received no comments on our proposal.

III. EPA Action

No comments were submitted on our proposal. Therefore, as authorized in section 110(k)(3) of the Act, the EPA is approving this rule into the Arizona SIP. The August 9, 2023 version of Rule 100 will replace the previously approved version of this rule in the SIP.

IV. Incorporation by Reference

In this rule, the EPA is finalizing regulatory text that includes incorporation by reference. In accordance with requirements of 1 CFR 51.5, the EPA is finalizing the incorporation by reference of the MCAQD’s Rule 100, “General Provisions and Definitions,” revised on August 9, 2023, which sets forth the legal authority for the Maricopa County Air Pollution Rules and provides definitions of terms used throughout these rules. Therefore, these materials have been approved by the EPA for inclusion in the SIP, have been incorporated by reference by the EPA into that plan, are fully federally enforceable under sections 110 and 113 of the CAA as of the effective date of the final rulemaking of the EPA’s approval, and will be incorporated by reference in the next update to the SIP compilation.¹ The EPA has made, and will continue to make, these documents available through www.regulations.gov and at the EPA Region IX office (please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this preamble for more information).

V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under the Clean Air Act, the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the Act and applicable federal regulations. 42 U.S.C. 7410(k); 40 CFR 52.02(a). Thus, in reviewing SIP

submissions, the EPA’s role is to approve state choices, provided that they meet the criteria of the Clean Air Act. Accordingly, this action merely approves the state law as meeting federal requirements and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by the state law. For that reason, this action:

- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Orders 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993) and 14094 (88 FR 21879, April 11, 2023);
- Does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*);
- Is certified as not having a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*);
- Does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–4);
- Does not have federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);
- Is not subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997) because it approves a state program;
- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001); and
- Is not subject to requirements of Section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the Clean Air Act.

In addition, the SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where the EPA or an Indian tribe has demonstrated that a tribe has jurisdiction. In those areas of Indian country, the rule does not have tribal implications and will not impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000).

Executive Order 12898 (Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, 59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994) directs Federal agencies to identify and address “disproportionately high and adverse

human health or environmental effects” of their actions on minority populations and low-income populations to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law. The EPA defines environmental justice (EJ) as “the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.” The EPA further defines the term fair treatment to mean that “no group of people should bear a disproportionate burden of environmental harms and risks, including those resulting from the negative environmental consequences of industrial, governmental, and commercial operations or programs and policies.”

The State did not evaluate environmental justice considerations as part of its SIP submittal as the CAA and applicable implementing regulations neither prohibit nor require such an evaluation. The EPA did not perform an EJ analysis and did not consider EJ in this action. Due to the nature of the action being taken here, this action is expected to have a neutral to positive impact on the air quality of the affected area. Consideration of EJ is not required as part of this action, and there is no information in the record inconsistent with the stated goal of Executive Order 12898 of achieving environmental justice for people of color, low-income populations, and Indigenous peoples.

This action is subject to the Congressional Review Act, and the EPA will submit a rule report to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. This action is not a “major rule” as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

Under section 307(b)(1) of the Clean Air Act, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by June 3, 2024. Filing a petition for reconsideration by the Administrator of this final rule does not affect the finality of this action for the purposes of judicial review nor does it extend the time within which a petition for judicial review may be filed, and shall not postpone the effectiveness of such rule or action. This action may not be challenged later in proceedings to enforce its requirements. (See section 307(b)(2).)

¹ 62 FR 27968 (May 22, 1997).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Nitrogen oxides, Ozone, Particulate matter, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Volatile organic compounds.

Dated: March 27, 2024.
Martha Guzman Aceves,
Regional Administrator, Region IX.

Part 52, chapter I, title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 52—APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

■ 1. The authority citation for Part 52 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Subpart D—Arizona

■ 2. In § 52.120, in paragraph (c), amend table 4 by revising the entry for “Rule 100” under the Table headings, “Post-July 1988 Rule Codification” and “Regulation I—General Provisions,” to read as follows:

§ 52.120 Identification of plan.

* * * * *
 (c) * * *

TABLE 4 TO PARAGRAPH (c)—EPA-APPROVED MARICOPA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL REGULATIONS

County citation	Title/subject	State effective date	EPA Approval Date	Additional explanation
*	*	*	*	*
Post-July 1988 Rule Codification				
Regulation I—General Provisions				
Rule 100	General Provisions and Definitions	August 9, 2023	[INSERT FIRST PAGE OF FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION], April 4, 2024.	Submitted on August 23, 2023.
*	*	*	*	*

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 [FR Doc. 2024–06879 Filed 4–3–24; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA–R03–OAR–2023–0565; FRL–11415–02–R3]

Air Plan Approval; Pennsylvania; Allegheny County Open Burning Revision and Addition of Mon Valley Air Pollution Episode Requirements

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is approving a state implementation plan (SIP) revision submitted by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) on behalf of the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD). The revision incorporates into the Pennsylvania SIP, particulate matter emission mitigation requirements for industry operating in the portion of Allegheny County known as the “Mon Valley” during weather-related pollution episodes. It also amends a portion of Allegheny County’s open burning regulation, which was previously incorporated into

Pennsylvania’s SIP. EPA is approving this revision to the Allegheny County portion of the Pennsylvania SIP in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA).

DATES: This final rule is effective on May 6, 2024.

ADDRESSES: EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID Number EPA–R03–OAR–2023–0565. All documents in the docket are listed on the www.regulations.gov website. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., confidential business information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available through www.regulations.gov, or please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section for additional availability information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ellen Schmitt, Planning & Implementation Branch (3AD30), Air & Radiation Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1600 John F Kennedy Boulevard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. The telephone number is (215) 814–5787. Ms. Schmitt can also be reached via electronic mail at schmitt.ellen@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

EPA received a SIP submission from PADEP on August 23, 2023, which EPA subsequently proposed approval of on February 5, 2024 (89 FR 7655). In EPA’s notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM), EPA proposed to approve changes to ACHD Air Pollution Control Rules and Regulations in Article XXI. This SIP revision includes amendments to section 2105.50 regarding open burning, and adds new section 2106.06, which focuses on mitigating particulate matter air pollution episodes in the Mon Valley.

II. Summary of SIP Revision and EPA Analysis

PADEP’s August 2023 SIP submission seeks to incorporate into Pennsylvania’s SIP a new section (2106.06, Mon Valley Air Pollution Episode) to Allegheny County Article XXI, which focuses on mitigating particulate matter air pollution episodes in the Mon Valley. The SIP submission also seeks to incorporate into the Pennsylvania SIP related changes to Article XXI, section 2105.50, Open Burning.

Article XXI, section 2106.06, Mon Valley Air Episode, is aimed at emission mitigation requirements for industry operating in the portion of the county known as the “Mon Valley” during