

organizational alignment of the Center for Innovation for Care and Payment and to revise the location of the website where evaluation results are posted for public review for the pilot programs. Consequently, this rule is exempt from the notice-and-comment and delayed-effective-date requirements as a rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice pursuant to section 553(b)(A) in Title 5 of United States Code.

Executive Orders 12866, 13563 and 14094

Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review) directs agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, when regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, and other advantages; distributive impacts; and equity). Executive Order 13563 (Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review) emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, reducing costs, harmonizing rules, and promoting flexibility. Executive Order 14094 (Executive Order on Modernizing Regulatory Review) supplements and reaffirms the principles, structures, and definitions governing contemporary regulatory review established in Executive Order 12866 of September 30, 1993 (Regulatory Planning and Review), and Executive Order 13563 of January 18, 2011 (Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review). The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has determined that this rulemaking is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866, as amended by Executive Order 14094. The Regulatory Impact Analysis associated with this rulemaking can be found as a supporting document at www.regulations.gov.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601–612, is not applicable to this rulemaking because notice of proposed rulemaking is not required. 5 U.S.C. 601(2), 603(a), 604(a).

Unfunded Mandates

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 requires, at 2 U.S.C. 1532, that agencies prepare an assessment of anticipated costs and benefits before issuing any rule that may result in the expenditure by State, local, and Tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more (adjusted annually for inflation) in any one year. This final rule will have no

such effect on State, local, and Tribal governments, or on the private sector.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This final rule contains no provisions constituting a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521).

Congressional Review Act

Pursuant to Subtitle E of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (known as the Congressional Review Act) (5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*), the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs designated this rule as not satisfying the criteria under 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

Assistance Listing

The Assistance Listing numbers and titles for the programs affected by this document are as follows: 64.007, Blind Rehabilitation Centers; 64.008, Veterans Domiciliary Care; 64.009, Veterans Medical Care Benefits; 64.010, Veterans Nursing Home Care; 64.011, Veterans Dental Care; 64.012, Veterans Prescription Service; 64.013, Veterans Prosthetic Appliances; 64.014, Veterans State Domiciliary Care; 64.015, Veterans State Nursing Home Care; 64.016, Veterans State Hospital Care; 64.018, Sharing Specialized Medical Resources; 64.019, Veterans Rehabilitation Alcohol and Drug Dependence; and 64.022, Veterans Home Based Primary Care.

List of Subjects in 38 CFR Part 17

Administrative practice and procedure, Alcohol abuse, Alcoholism, Claims, Day care, Dental health, Drug abuse, Foreign relations, Government contracts, Grant programs-health, Grant programs-veterans, Health care, Health facilities, Health professions, Health records, Homeless, Medical and dental schools, Medical devices, Medical research, Mental health programs, Nursing homes, Philippines, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Scholarships and fellowships, Travel and transportation expenses, Veterans.

Signing Authority

Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on July 23, 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.

Consuela Benjamin,

Regulations Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Department of Veterans Affairs amends 38 CFR part 17 as set forth below:

PART 17—MEDICAL

■ 1. The general authority citation for part 17 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501, and as noted in specific sections.

■ 2. Amend § 17.450 by revising paragraphs (a)(2) and (g) to read as follows:

§ 17.450 Center for Innovation for Care and Payment.

(a) * * *

(2) The Center for Innovation for Care and Payment will operate within the Veterans Health Administration, which will ensure that the limited number of concurrent pilots under this section are not redundant of or conflicting with ongoing innovation efforts within any specific administration.

* * * * *

(g) *Evaluation and reporting.* VA will evaluate each pilot program operated under this section and report its findings. Evaluations may be based on quantitative data, qualitative data, or both. Whenever appropriate, evaluations will include a survey of participants or beneficiaries to determine their satisfaction with the pilot program. VA will make the evaluation results available to the public on a VA website on the schedule identified in VA's proposal for the pilot program.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2024–16601 Filed 7–26–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 81

[EPA–R01–OAR–2024–0325; FRL–12126–01–R1]

Designations of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Connecticut; Greater Connecticut 2015 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area; Reclassification to Serious

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: Under the Clean Air Act (CAA or the “Act”), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is granting a request from the State of Connecticut to reclassify the Greater Connecticut ozone nonattainment area from “Moderate” to “Serious” for the 2015 8-hour ozone national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). This action does not reclassify any areas of Indian country within the boundaries of this ozone nonattainment area.

DATES: This rule is effective on July 29, 2024.

ADDRESSES: EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket Identification No. EPA–R01–OAR–2024–0325. 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, *i.e.*, 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 at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Region 1 Regional Office, Air and Radiation Division, 5 Post Office Square—Suite 100, 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 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding legal holidays and facility closures due to COVID–19.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick Lillis, Air and Radiation Division (Mail Code 5–MI), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100, Boston, Massachusetts 02109–3912; tel. (617) 918–1067, or by email at lillis.patrick@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Throughout this document whenever “we,” “us,” or “our” is used, we mean EPA.

Table of Contents

- I. Reclassification of the Greater Connecticut Area to Serious Ozone Nonattainment
- II. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

I. Reclassification of the Greater Connecticut Area to Serious Ozone Nonattainment

Effective November 7, 2022 the EPA reclassified the Greater Connecticut area under the CAA from “Marginal” to “Moderate” for the 2015 8-hour ozone

NAAQS. *See* 87 FR 60897 (October 7, 2022).¹ This area is herein referred to as the Greater Connecticut 2015 NAAQS nonattainment area. Classification of this area as a Moderate ozone nonattainment area established a requirement that the area attain the 2015 ozone NAAQS as expeditiously as practicable, but no later than six years from the date of the original designation for the area, *i.e.*, by August 3, 2024. On June 13, 2024, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection requested that the EPA reclassify the Greater Connecticut 2015 ozone NAAQS nonattainment area from Moderate to Serious if EPA either fails to issue a decision on Connecticut’s exceptional events demonstration in a timely manner or EPA determines that certain data requested for exclusion does not qualify for exclusion under the Exceptional Events rule.² In accordance with Connecticut’s June 13, 2024 letter, we are reclassifying the Greater Connecticut 2015 NAAQS nonattainment area to Serious as the State requested.

We are approving Connecticut’s reclassification request under section 181(b)(3) of the Act, which provides for “voluntary reclassification.” Because the plain language of CAA section 181(b)(3) mandates that we approve such a request, the EPA is granting Connecticut’s request for voluntary reclassification under section 181(b)(3) for the Greater Connecticut NAAQS nonattainment area for the 2015 ozone NAAQS, and the EPA is reclassifying the area from Moderate to Serious. Because of this action, the Greater Connecticut 2015 NAAQS nonattainment area must now attain the 2015 ozone NAAQS as expeditiously as practicable, but no later than nine years from the date of the initial designation as nonattainment, *i.e.*, by August 3, 2027. We will propose a schedule for required plan submittals for the Greater Connecticut 2015 ozone NAAQS nonattainment area under the new classification in a separate action.

Within the geographic boundaries of the Greater Connecticut 2015 ozone NAAQS nonattainment area Indian country exists under the jurisdiction of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation and Mohegan Indian Tribe. Because the State of Connecticut does not have jurisdiction over Indian country located within its borders, Connecticut’s request to reclassify the Greater Connecticut

2015 NAAQS nonattainment area does not apply to this area of Indian country. The EPA implements certain Federal CAA programs, including reclassifications, in Indian country consistent with our discretionary authority under sections 301(a) and 301(d)(4) of the CAA. The EPA has not received a reclassification request from any tribe with jurisdiction within the Greater Connecticut 2015 NAAQS nonattainment area. In this action, we are adding regulatory text to 40 CFR part 81 to indicate that the area under the jurisdiction of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation and Mohegan Indian Tribe will retain the Moderate classification and the areas under the jurisdiction of the states will be reclassified as Serious.

The EPA has determined that this action falls under the “good cause” exemption in section 553(b)(3)(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) which, upon finding “good cause,” authorizes agencies to dispense with public participation where public notice and comment procedures are “impracticable, unnecessary or contrary to the public interest.” The EPA has determined that public notice and comment for this action is unnecessary because our action to approve voluntary reclassification requests under CAA section 181(b)(3) is nondiscretionary both in its issuance and in its content. As such, notice and comment rulemaking procedures would serve no useful purpose.

The EPA also finds that there is good cause under APA section 553(d)(3) for this reclassification to become effective on the date of publication. Section 553(d)(3) of the APA allows an effective date of less than 30 days after publication “as otherwise provided by the agency for good cause found and published with the rule.” The purpose of the 30-day waiting period prescribed in APA section 553(d)(3) is to give affected parties a reasonable time to adjust their behavior and prepare before the final rule takes effect. This rule, however, does not create any new regulatory requirements such that affected parties would need time to prepare before the rule takes effect. The schedule for required plan submittals for the Greater Connecticut 2015 NAAQS nonattainment area under the new classification will be proposed in a separate action. For this reason, the EPA finds good cause under APA section 553(d)(3) for this reclassification to become effective on the date of publication.

II. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under the Clean Air Act this action:

¹ *See* 83 FR 25776; June 4, 2018.

² A copy of Connecticut’s exceptional events demonstration and EPA’s decision is included in the docket for this rule.

- 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 13563 (76 FR 3821, January 21, 2011);

- 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 an economically significant regulatory action based on health or safety risks subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997);

- 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, this request is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where 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. 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.” 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. Connecticut did not evaluate environmental justice considerations as part of its submittal; the CAA and applicable implementing regulations neither prohibit nor require such an evaluation. 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 E.O. 12898 of achieving environmental justice for people of color, low-income populations, and Indigenous peoples.

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report, which includes a copy of the rule, to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. EPA will submit a report containing this action and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the **Federal Register**. A major rule cannot take effect until 60 days after it

is published in the **Federal Register**. 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 September 27, 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).)

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 81

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Intergovernmental relations, Ozone.

Dated: July 22, 2024.

David Cash,

Regional Administrator, EPA Region 1.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Environmental Protection Agency amends 40 CFR Chapter 1 as set forth below:

PART 81—DESIGNATION FOR AREAS FOR AIR QUALITY PLANNING PURPOSES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 81 continues to read as follows:

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

Subpart C—Section 107 Attainment Status Designations

■ 2. In § 81.307 the table entitled “Connecticut—2015 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS [Primary and Secondary]” is amended by revising the entry “Greater Connecticut, CT” and adding the entries “Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation” and “Mohegan Indian Tribe” at the end of the table to read as follows:

§ 81.307 Connecticut.

* * * * *

CONNECTICUT—2015 8-HOUR OZONE NAAQS
[Primary and secondary]

Designated area ¹	Designation		Classification	
	Date ²	Type	Date ²	Type
Greater Connecticut		Nonattainment	July 29, 2024	Serious.
Litchfield County.				
Hartford County.				
Tolland County.				
Windham County.				
New London County.				

CONNECTICUT—2015 8-HOUR OZONE NAAQS—Continued
[Primary and secondary]

Table with 5 columns: Designated area 1, Date 2, Type, Date 2, Type. Rows include Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation and Mohegan Indian Tribe.

1 Includes any Indian country in each county or area, unless otherwise specified. EPA is not determining the boundaries of any area of Indian country in this table, including any area of Indian country located in the larger designation area.

2 This date is August 3, 2018, unless otherwise noted.

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[FR Doc. 2024-16415 Filed 7-26-24; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Defense Acquisition Regulations System

48 CFR Parts 201, 202, 204, 206, 209, 215, 217, 225, 230, 232, 242, 243, 245, 249, and 252

[Docket DARS-2024-0001]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments

AGENCY: Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Final rule; technical amendment.

SUMMARY: DoD is amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to make needed editorial changes.

DATES: Effective July 29, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Jennifer D. Johnson, telephone 703-717-8226.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This final rule amends the DFARS to make needed editorial changes to update the name of the Office of the Principal Director, Defense Pricing and Contracting.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Parts 201, 202, 204, 206, 209, 215, 217, 225, 230, 232, 242, 243, 245, 249, and 252

Government procurement.

Jennifer D. Johnson, Editor/Publisher, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

Therefore, the Defense Acquisition Regulations System amends 48 CFR parts 201, 202, 204, 206, 209, 215, 217, 225, 230, 232, 242, 243, 245, 249, and 252 as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR parts 201, 202, 204, 206, 209, 215, 217, 225, 230, 232, 242, 243, 245, 249, and 252 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 41 U.S.C. 1303 and 48 CFR chapter 1.

PART 201—FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATIONS SYSTEM

2. Amend section 201.170 by revising paragraphs (a) introductory text, (a)(1) introductory text, (a)(1)(i) and (ii), and (a)(2) to read as follows:

201.170 Peer reviews.

(a) Defense Pricing, Contracting, and Acquisition Policy peer reviews. (1) The Office of the Principal Director, Defense Pricing, Contracting, and Acquisition Policy (DPCAP), using the procedures at PGI 201.170, will organize teams of reviewers and facilitate peer reviews for solicitations and contracts as follows:

(i) DPCAP will conduct the preaward peer reviews for competitive procurements prior to the three phases of the acquisition (see PGI 201.170-2(a)) for all procurements with an estimated value of \$1 billion or more under major defense acquisition programs for which the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)) is the milestone decision authority or USD(A&S) designates as requiring a peer review regardless of value. DoD components may request DPCAP-led peer reviews for acquisitions valued below the \$1 billion threshold. DPCAP will conduct these reviews upon approval by the Director, DPCAP (Contract Policy).

(ii) DPCAP will conduct the preaward peer reviews for noncompetitive procurements prior to the two phases of the acquisition (see PGI 201.170-2(b)) for contract actions, e.g., new contracts, modifications to existing contracts, requests for equitable adjustment, claims valued at \$1 billion or more, or for any other contract action USD(A&S) designates as requiring a peer review regardless of value. DoD components

may request DPCAP-led peer reviews for contract actions valued below the \$1 billion threshold. DPCAP will conduct these reviews upon approval by the Director, DPCAP (Price, Cost and Finance).

(2) To facilitate planning for peer reviews, the military departments and defense agencies shall provide a rolling annual forecast of acquisitions that will be subject to DPCAP peer reviews at the end of each quarter (i.e., March 31; June 30; September 30; December 31).

(i) Military departments and defense agencies shall submit quarterly forecasts for competitive peer reviews to the Director, DPCAP (Contract Policy), at osd.pentagon.ousd-a-s.mbx.dpc-cp@mail.mil.

(ii) Military departments and defense agencies shall submit quarterly forecasts for noncompetitive peer reviews to the Director, DPCAP (Price, Cost and Finance), at osd.pentagon.ousd-a-s.mbx.dpc-pcf@mail.mil.

201.201-1 [Amended]

3. Amend section 201.201-1 in paragraph (d)(i)V by removing "Defense Pricing and Contracting" and adding "Defense Pricing, Contracting, and Acquisition Policy" in its place.

201.304 [Amended]

- 4. Amend section 201.304—
a. In paragraph (1)(ii) by removing "Defense Pricing and Contracting (DPC)" and adding "Defense Pricing, Contracting, and Acquisition Policy (DPCAP)" in its place;
b. In paragraph (4) by removing "USD(A&S)DPC" and adding "USD(A&S)DPCAP" in its place;
c. In paragraph (5) by removing "OUSD(A&S)DPC" and adding "OUSD(A&S)DPCAP" in its place; and
d. In paragraph (6) by removing "DPC" and adding "DPCAP" in its place wherever it appears.
5. Amend section 201.402—