

CHAPTER 5

REDESIGNATION REQUEST

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The District is requesting redesignation of the Coachella Valley from serious nonattainment to attainment of the PM₁₀ NAAQS. Section 107 (d)(3)(E) of the CAA requires the U.S. EPA administrator to make five findings prior to granting a request for redesignation:

1. The U.S. EPA has determined that the NAAQS have been attained.
2. The applicable implementation plan has been fully approved by U.S. EPA under section 110(k).
3. The U.S. EPA has determined that the improvement in air quality is due to permanent and enforceable reductions in emissions.
4. The State has met all applicable requirements for the area under Section 110 and Part D.
5. The U.S. EPA has fully approved a maintenance plan, including a contingency plan, for the area under Section 175A.

The following paragraphs provide information necessary for the U.S. EPA to make the above findings.

Attainment of the Standard

According to U.S. EPA guidance, the demonstration of attainment with PM₁₀ standards must rely on three complete, consecutive calendar years of quality-assured air quality monitoring data collected in accordance with 40 CFR 50, Appendix K. With the application of the U.S. EPA's Natural Events Policy (NEP) to a high-wind day in 1995, the Coachella Valley has not experienced any exceedances of either the 24-hour or annual average PM₁₀ NAAQS during the period 1993-1995. An expanded discussion of recent Coachella Valley air quality data and compliance with federal standards is included in Chapter 2. The Natural Events Action Plan (NEAP) prepared in response to the U.S. EPA's NEP is included in Chapter 6.

Approved Implementation Plan

As discussed in Chapter 1, the District prepared a State Implementation Plan (SIP) in response to the moderate nonattainment designation (90-CVSIP) and the serious nonattainment redesignation (94-CVSIP). Both of these documents were submitted to the ARB, which subsequently forwarded them to the U.S. EPA. The U.S. EPA has not

officially taken action on these Plans, but since the 1990 Plan has been fully implemented, and since the area has attained the PM₁₀ standards, approval is anticipated. The District has requested the U.S. EPA to expedite its approval of the 90-CVSIP to meet this requirement for redesignation.

Permanent and Enforceable Emission Reductions

PM₁₀ emission reductions leading to attainment of the federal standards are the result of local control actions that were implemented between 1991 and 1995. Additionally, the District has adopted two Rules (403/403.1) that serve as a backstop to local control actions. Chapter 1 contains an expanded discussion of existing control action implementation. Chapter 4 contains a discussion of the anticipated future emissions reductions due to an enhanced street sweeping program and from District actions to reduce the transport of secondary particulates from the South Coast Air Basin.

Section 110 and Part D Requirements

Section 110 and Part D of the CAA address implementation of SIPs and SIP requirements for nonattainment areas. U.S. EPA approval of the 90-CVSIP will demonstrate compliance with the Section 110 and Part D requirements.

Approved Maintenance Plan

The District is submitting its Maintenance Plan (Chapter 4) concurrently with this redesignation request. The District requests U.S. EPA to expeditiously review the Plan, and if determined to meet the provisions of the CAA, approve the Maintenance Plan as part of the redesignation process.