



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

THE ADMINISTRATOR

December 21, 2020

The Honorable Roy Cooper
Governor of North Carolina
Office of the Governor
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699

Dear Governor Cooper:

I am writing to inform you that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed additional area designations for the 2010 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) primary national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS). The enclosed table summarizes the areas that EPA is designating at this time. A detailed explanation of the EPA's rationale for these designations is available on EPA's SO₂ designations website at <https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations> and in Docket No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-0037 at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Additionally, an action finalizing these designations will be published in the *Federal Register*. This action completes all area designations for the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS in the United States.

Improving air quality to protect public health is a shared goal. Through local, state, tribal, and national programs, we have made considerable progress to reduce SO₂ levels throughout the country. Nationwide, monitored levels of SO₂ have dropped 90 percent since 1990. I appreciate the work you have done and the partnership we have developed to achieve this impressive reduction.

Thank you for North Carolina's efforts to provide cleaner air for the citizens in your state. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me or your staff may contact Joseph Brazauskas, Associate Administrator for the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, at brazauskas.joseph@epa.gov or at (202) 564-5189.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew R. Wheeler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrew R. Wheeler

Enclosure

Enclosure

**EPA's Final Area Designations for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂)
Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) – Round 4**

State	County/Parish	SO₂ Emissions Source(s)	EPA's Final Area	EPA's Final Designation
AL	Shelby	Lhoist North America of Alabama - Montevallo Plant	Shelby County (partial)*	Attainment/Unclassifiable
GA	Floyd	International Paper – Rome (Formerly Temple Inland)	Floyd County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
HI	Honolulu	AES Hawaii LLC Cogeneration Plant Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) Kahe Generating Station Kalaeloa Cogeneration Plant	Honolulu County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
HI	Honolulu	Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) Waiau Generating Station	Honolulu County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
IL	Macon	Archer Daniels Midland Company Tate & Lyle Ingredients Americas LLC	Macon County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
IN	Porter	ArcelorMittal Burns Harbor LLC	Porter County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
KY	Henderson	Century Aluminum Sebree LLC Robert Reid Station/HMP&L Station 2 Robert D. Green Station	Henderson County (partial)** Webster County (partial)**	Nonattainment
LA	East Baton Rouge	Oxbow Calcining LLC - Baton Rouge Calcined Coke Plant	East Baton Rouge Parish	Attainment/Unclassifiable
LA	St. Charles	Rain CII Carbon LLC - Norco Coke Plant	St. Charles Parish	Attainment/Unclassifiable
LA	St. James	Rain CII Carbon LLC - Gramercy Coke Plant	St. James Parish	Attainment/Unclassifiable
LA	West Baton Rouge	Tokai Carbon CB - Addis Facility	West Baton Rouge Parish	Attainment/Unclassifiable

State	County/Parish	SO ₂ Emissions Source(s)	EPA's Final Area	EPA's Final Designation
MD/WV	Allegany (MD) Mineral (WV)	Luke Paper Mill	Allegany County, MD Mineral County, WV	Attainment/Unclassifiable
MO	Iron	Doe Run Buick Resource Recycling	Iron County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
MO	New Madrid	Magnitude 7 Metals AECI New Madrid	New Madrid County (partial)**	Nonattainment
NE	Douglas	OPPD - North Omaha Power	Douglas County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
NY	Cayuga Seneca Tompkins	Cayuga Generating Station	Cayuga County Seneca County Tompkins County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
NY	St. Lawrence	Alcoa Massena	St. Lawrence County (partial)**	Nonattainment
NC	Buncombe	Asheville Steam Electric Plant - Duke Energy Progress, Inc.	Limestone Township – Buncombe County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
NC	Haywood	Blue Ridge Paper Products - Canton Mill	Beaverdam Township – Haywood County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
NC	Person	Roxboro Steam Electric Plant - Duke Energy Progress, LLC	Cunningham Township – Person County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
ND	Williams	Amerada Hess - Tioga Gas Plant	Williams County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
OK	Garfield	Oxbow Calcining - Kremlin	Garfield County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
OK	Mayes	GRDA - Chouteau Coal Fired Complex	Mayes County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
OK	Muskogee	Georgia Pacific - Muskogee Mill OG&E - Muskogee Generating Station	Muskogee County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
PA	York	Magnesita Refractories Pixelle Specialty Solutions LLC Spring Grove	York County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
PA	York	Brunner Island Steam Electric Station	York County	Attainment/Unclassifiable

State	County/Parish	SO ₂ Emissions Source(s)	EPA's Final Area	EPA's Final Designation
TX	Bexar	City Public Service - Calaveras Plant	Bexar County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
TX	Harrison	Southwestern Electric Power Co. - AEP Pirkey Power Plant	Harrison County	Unclassifiable
TX	Howard	Tokai Carbon CB LTD Big Spring Carbon Black Plant	Howard County (partial)**	Nonattainment
TX	Hutchinson	Orion Carbon Black Tokai Carbon Black	Hutchinson County (partial)**	Nonattainment
TX	Jefferson	Oxbow Calcining LLC - Oxbow Calcining	Jefferson County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
TX	Navarro	Arcosa LWS LLC Streetman Plant	Navarro County (partial)**	Nonattainment
TX	Orange	Orion Engineered Carbons LLC - Echo Carbon Black	Orange County	Unclassifiable
TX	Robertson	Oak Grove MGMT Company LLC - Oak Grove Steam Electric Station	Robertson County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
TX	Titus	Southwestern Electric Power Co. - Welsh Power Plant	Titus County (partial)*	Attainment/Unclassifiable
VA	Alleghany	Westrock's Covington Mill (Meadwestvaco Packaging Resource Group)	City of Covington – Alleghany County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
VA	Botetourt	Roanoke Cement Company	Botetourt County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
VA	Giles	Lhoist Kimballton Plant	Giles County (partial)**	Nonattainment
WA	Chelan Douglas	Alcoa Primary Metals Wenatchee Works	Chelan County Douglas County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
WA	Whatcom	Alcoa Intalco	Whatcom County (partial)**	Nonattainment
WI	Outagamie	Ahlstrom-Munksjö NA Specialty Solutions LLC – Kaukauna	Outagamie County (partial)**	Nonattainment
WY	Carbon	Sinclair Wyoming - Sinclair Refinery	Carbon County	Attainment/Unclassifiable

State	County/Parish	SO₂ Emissions Source(s)	EPA's Final Area	EPA's Final Designation
WY	Fremont	Burlington Resources - Lost Cabin Gas Plant	Fremont County (partial)*	Attainment/Unclassifiable
WY	Converse	PacifiCorp - Dave Johnston	Converse County	Attainment/Unclassifiable
WY	Sweetwater	Solvay Chemicals - Solvay Green River TATA Chemicals - Green River Works Tronox Alkali - Granger Tronox - Westvaco	Sweetwater County (partial)*	Attainment/Unclassifiable

* The other portion of the area was designated previously.

** EPA is designating the remaining undesignated portion of the area (*i.e.*, the remaining portion of the county outside of EPA's final nonattainment area boundary) as attainment/unclassifiable in this round of designations.

Technical Support Document:

Chapter 7

Final Round 4 Area Designations for the 2010 1-Hour SO₂ Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for North Carolina

Pursuant to section 107(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA, we, or us) must designate areas as either “nonattainment,” “attainment,” or “unclassifiable” for the 2010 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) primary national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) (2010 SO₂ NAAQS). On or about August 13, 2020, EPA sent states our responses to certain designation recommendations for the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS. On August 21, 2020, EPA published a notice of availability (NOA) in the *Federal Register* (see 85 FR 51694), initiating a 30-day public comment period. The NOA and the technical support document (TSD) for EPA’s intended designations provided background on the relevant CAA definitions and the history of the designations for this NAAQS. The TSD for EPA’s intended designations also described North Carolina’s recommended designations and EPA’s assessment of the available information.

During the public comment period, EPA received comments from Sierra Club and Evergreen Packaging regarding the intended designations of the Haywood County, Beaverdam Township in North Carolina. These comments are addressed in the Response to Comments document associated with this final action. Additionally, on November 24, 2020, EPA published a final rule in the *Federal Register* approving North Carolina’s September 3, 2020, source-specific state implementation plan (SIP) for the Blue Ridge Paper Products (BRPP) facility (see 85 FR 74884). This action incorporated certain SO₂ emissions limits and associated monitoring, reporting and recordkeeping compliance parameters for BRPP into the North Carolina SIP.

Therefore, as described in EPA’s 120-day letter and the TSD for EPA’s intended Round 4 designations, EPA is finalizing a designation of attainment/unclassifiable for the Beaverdam Township area in Haywood County, North Carolina. This TSD does not repeat information contained in the TSD for EPA’s intended designations. Table 1 identifies EPA’s final Round 4 designations and the areas in North Carolina to which they apply, and Chapter 1 of this TSD for the final designations explains the definitions that EPA is applying in the final designations process.

Table 1. Summary of EPA’s Final Designations and the Designation Recommendations by North Carolina

Area/County	North Carolina Recommended Area Definition	North Carolina’s Recommended Designation	EPA’s Intended Designation	EPA’s Final Area Definition	EPA’s Final Designation
Haywood County	Beaverdam Township – Haywood County	Attainment/Unclassifiable	Nonattainment	Same as State’s	Attainment/Unclassifiable
Buncombe County*	Limestone Township – Buncombe County	Attainment	Attainment/Unclassifiable	Same as State’s	Attainment/Unclassifiable
Person County*	Cunningham Township – Person County	Attainment	Attainment/Unclassifiable	Same as State’s	Attainment/Unclassifiable

* EPA addresses this area in Chapter 2 with all other areas which EPA is designating “attainment/unclassifiable” or “unclassifiable.”

Areas that EPA previously designated in Round 1 (*see* 78 FR 47191), Round 2 (*see* 81 FR 45039 and 81 FR 89870), and Round 3 (*see* 83 FR 1098 and 83 FR 14597) are not affected by the designations in Round 4.