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# Eastern Kern

Air Pollution Control District

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Glen E. Stephens, P.E.  
Air Pollution Control Officer

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May 4, 2023

Board of Directors  
Eastern Kern APCD  
2700 "M" Street, Suite 302  
Bakersfield, California 93301

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of 2023 Ozone Attainment Plan for the Federal 2008, 75 ppb and 2015, 70 ppb 8-Hour Ozone Standards

Honorable Board:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) adopted a more stringent 8-hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) in 2008 of 75 parts per billion (ppb) and in 2015 of 70 ppb. The Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District (District) attained the previous (1997) 8-hour Ozone NAAQS, however, the area outside of the Indian Wells Valley failed to attain the new standards by the applicable attainment dates. Therefore, the District's nonattainment area was classified as Severe nonattainment pursuant to the 2008 NAAQS and Serious nonattainment pursuant to the 2015 NAAQS. Both standards have an attainment date for 2027.

Photochemical modeling completed by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) determined the District would attain the 2008 NAAQS by 2027. However, modeling showed the District will not attain the 2015 NAAQS by the Serious deadline of 2027, but could achieve attainment by 2033; the deadline for Severe nonattainment. Pursuant to Section 181(b)(3) of the Federal Clean Air Act (CAA), the District is allowed to voluntarily request reclassification from Serious to Severe nonattainment. This will revise the 2015 ozone NAAQS attainment date from 2027 to 2033. The 2023 attainment plan includes a section requesting EPA reclassify the District's nonattainment area from Serious to Severe pursuant to the 2015 ozone NAAQS, and move the attainment date to August 3, 2033.

Resolution 2023-001-05 will adopt the District's 2023 Ozone Attainment Plan for the Federal 2008, 75 ppb 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS and 2015, 70 ppb 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS.

A Notice of Public Hearing was published more than 30 days prior to this hearing on the District's website and in adjudicated newspapers; Mojave Desert News, Daily Independent, Tehachapi News, and Bakersfield Californian. According to the notice, all written comments to the proposed 2023 Ozone Attainment Plan should be submitted by 5:00pm on May 3, 2023. A copy of the 546-page 2023 Ozone Attainment Plan was e-mailed to you, and is available on the District's website: <http://www.kernair.org/>.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** your Board Open Hearing; Receive Public Comment; Close Hearing; Adopt the 2023 Ozone Attainment Plan for the Federal 2008, 75 ppb and 2015, 70 ppb 8-Hour Ozone Standards, and Resolution No. 2023-001-05.

Sincerely,

Glen E. Stephens, P.E.  
Air Pollution Control Officer

GES: JC: kl  
Enclosures

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