

## **ATTACHMENT I**

### **Comments from Federal Land Managers and EPA (with responses)**

## Attachment I

- Forest Service Comments on MANE-VU 2018 Modeling Draft Report and BenMAP Draft Report
- Department of Agriculture/Forest Service Comments on SIP Preparation
- Fish and Wildlife Comments on SIP Preparation

From: Angela King [aking@marama.org]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2008 10:10 AM  
To: Bodnarik, Andy; Underhill, Jeff; Martone, Charles H  
Subject: FW: Opportunity to Comment on the MANE-VU 2018 Modeling Draft Report and the BenMAP Draft Report

From Charles Sams of the Forest Service

-----Original Message-----

From: Charles E Sams [mailto:csams@fs.fed.us]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2007 1:22 PM  
To: Angela King  
Subject: Re: Opportunity to Comment on the MANE-VU 2018 Modeling Draft Report and the BenMAP Draft Report

Angela,

I found MANE-VU's "Modeling for Reasonable Progress" draft document to be informative and well organized. The distribution of SO2 emissions provided in Figure 1-5 was particularly interesting in light of MANE-VU's promotion of the S1 and S2 BOTW strategies. In Figure 1-5, the I-95 corridor stands out as one of the nation's dominant SO2 source regions during CY2002. It would be informative and perhaps helpful for the advancement of the S1 and S2 strategies to include within Section 5.1, in close proximity to the other figures in Section 5.1, another figure comparing the aerial reductions of SO2 associated with those strategies. I may choose to make further comments before January 9.

Thanks,  
Chuck

Chuck Sams  
Air Quality Program Manager  
USDA Forest Service, Regions 8 and 9  
626 E. Wisconsin Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
414-297-3529, FAX-414-944-3964  
csams@fs.fed.us  
www.fs.fed.us/air

"Angela King"  
<aking@marama.org  
> To "Angela King" <aking@marama.org>  
12/12/2007 12:09 PM cc  
Subject

Opportunity to Comment on the  
MANE-VU 2018 Modeling Draft Report  
and the BenMAP Draft Report

Opportunity To Comment

MANE-VU  
(Mid-Atlantic/Northeast Visibility Union)  
December 12, 2007

MANE-VU members, other states, and stakeholders are invited to comment on two draft reports.

MANE-VU is charged with coordinating regional haze planning in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern United States. The documents listed below will assist in this process. Please see below for brief descriptions and links to more information.

- . [MANE-VU Modeling for Reasonable Progress Goals: Model Performance Evaluation, Pollution Apportionment, and Control Measure Benefits](#)
- . [Public Health Benefits of Reducing Ground-level Ozone and Fine Particle Matter in the Northeast U.S.: A Benefits Mapping and Analysis Program \(BenMAP\) Study](#)

The comment period will be open through January 9, 2008. Comments and questions should be sent via email to Angela King of MARAMA at [aking@marama.org](mailto:aking@marama.org).

#### MANE-VU Modeling for Reasonable Progress Goals Draft Report

The main purpose of this report is to assist states in developing effective solutions to regional visibility and fine particle problems and comply with requirements under the Regional Haze Rule. Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM) conducted regional air quality simulations for calendar year 2002 and several future periods. This work was directed at satisfying a number of compliances goals under the Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP), including a contribution assessment, a pollution apportionment for 2018, and the evaluation of visibility benefits of control measures being considered for achieving reasonable progress goals and establishing a long-term emission management strategy for MANE-VU Class I areas.

This report describes efforts that form the foundation upon which MANE-VU states will base their haze SIP submissions. After the MANE-VU regional planning organization (RPO) considers the results provided here and consults with neighboring states and federal land managers, we anticipate that a final model simulation will be conducted to serve as a basis for calculating final reasonable progress goals.

Results show that sulfate aerosol, the dominant contributor to visibility impairment in the Northeast's Class I areas on the 20 percent worst visibility days, has significant contributions from states throughout the eastern U.S. These contributions are projected to continue in future years from all three of the eastern RPOs.

An assessment of potential control measures that would address this future contribution has identified a number of promising strategies that would yield significant visibility benefits. These measures include the adoption of low sulfur heating oil, implementation of Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) requirements, and additional electric generating unit

(EGU) controls on select sources. The combined benefits of adopting all of these programs could lead to an additional benefit of between 0.38 and 1.1 deciviews at MANE-VU Class I areas on the 20 percent worst visibility days by 2018.

The draft document is available at:

<http://filesharing.nescaum.org/download.php?file=31Modeling%20for%20Reasonable%20Progress%2012.10.07.doc>

## Public Health Benefits of Reducing Ground-level Ozone and Fine Particle Matter in the Northeast U.S. Draft Report

NESCAUM used the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Environmental Benefits Modeling and Analysis Program (BenMAP) to determine the magnitude and value of avoided adverse health endpoints in the northeast U.S. associated with various emission control programs in 2018. Future year air quality associated with implementation of various control strategies was simulated using two air quality modeling platforms, the Community Multi-scale Air Quality modeling system (CMAQ) and the California Photochemical Grid Model (CALGRID). NESCAUM examined the public health and monetary benefits of several potential emission control programs under consideration by the Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) and MANE-VU states. These programs include an EGU control strategy for nitrogen oxides (NOX) and sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) that increase the stringency of the current Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) and SO<sub>2</sub> emissions control strategies that would complement existing regulations to further reduce fine particle concentrations and improve visibility under the Regional Haze Rule. In addition, NESCAUM examined the benefits of achieving several different levels of the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for 8-hour average ozone concentrations (NAAQS rollback).

The draft document is available at:

[http://filesharing.nescaum.org/download.php?file=366BenMAP\\_report\\_draft%20final%2011.16.07.pdf](http://filesharing.nescaum.org/download.php?file=366BenMAP_report_draft%20final%2011.16.07.pdf)

## The Process

Comments will be reviewed and may result in changes to the draft documents. After reviewing comments, MANE-VU will post a summary response to those comments received by January 9, 2008. Comments received after that date will be considered as time permits.

Please send comments and questions to Angela King at [aking@marama.org](mailto:aking@marama.org) by January 9, 2008.



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Eastern Region

626 E. Wisconsin  
Suite 800  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

File Code: 2580-2

OCT 13 2006

Date:

RECEIVED  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

OCT 16 2006

Mr. Robert Scott  
Director, Air Resources Division  
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services  
6 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03301

AIR RESOURCES DIVISION

Dear Mr. Scott:

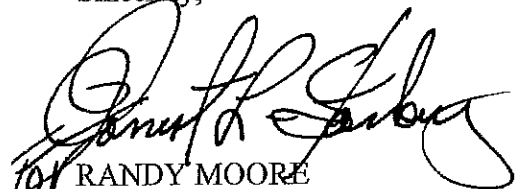
Over the past several years, members of both our staff and yours have participated with neighboring states and tribes in the Central States Regional Air Partnership to develop best approaches and tools for preparing plans that will reduce haze in Class I areas. With preparation of your Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP) at hand, we want to focus on collaboration with you and your staff to ensure success. As you know, consultation with you is required in the Regional Haze Rule (RHR). This is a priority for our air program.

Our focus will be on Class I wildernesses, which the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service (FS) is responsible for. We are coordinating with the other Class I area managers, the National Park Service, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service to facilitate a common message from all federal land managers (FLM). We anticipate leveraging strengths of each FLM to our joint advantage. Since the FLM will be seeking a close working relationship with every state in this SIP writing process, the expectation is to share ideas from across the nation. The objective of every SIP is to play a critical role in a national emissions reduction plan.

Enclosed are detailed perspectives pertinent to the SIP preparation. Any comments or questions should be directed to Ann Acheson, the principal FS point of contact, at (740) 373-9055 ext. 23 or [aacheson@fs.fed.us](mailto:aacheson@fs.fed.us). She will consult on your SIP throughout the required 60-day comment period, sharing our best insights and recommendations. Ann will also work with others on our staff, especially our National Haze Coordinator, Ann Mebane and the Department of Interior. Ann Mebane can be contacted at (307) 587-4597 or [amebane@fs.fed.us](mailto:amebane@fs.fed.us).

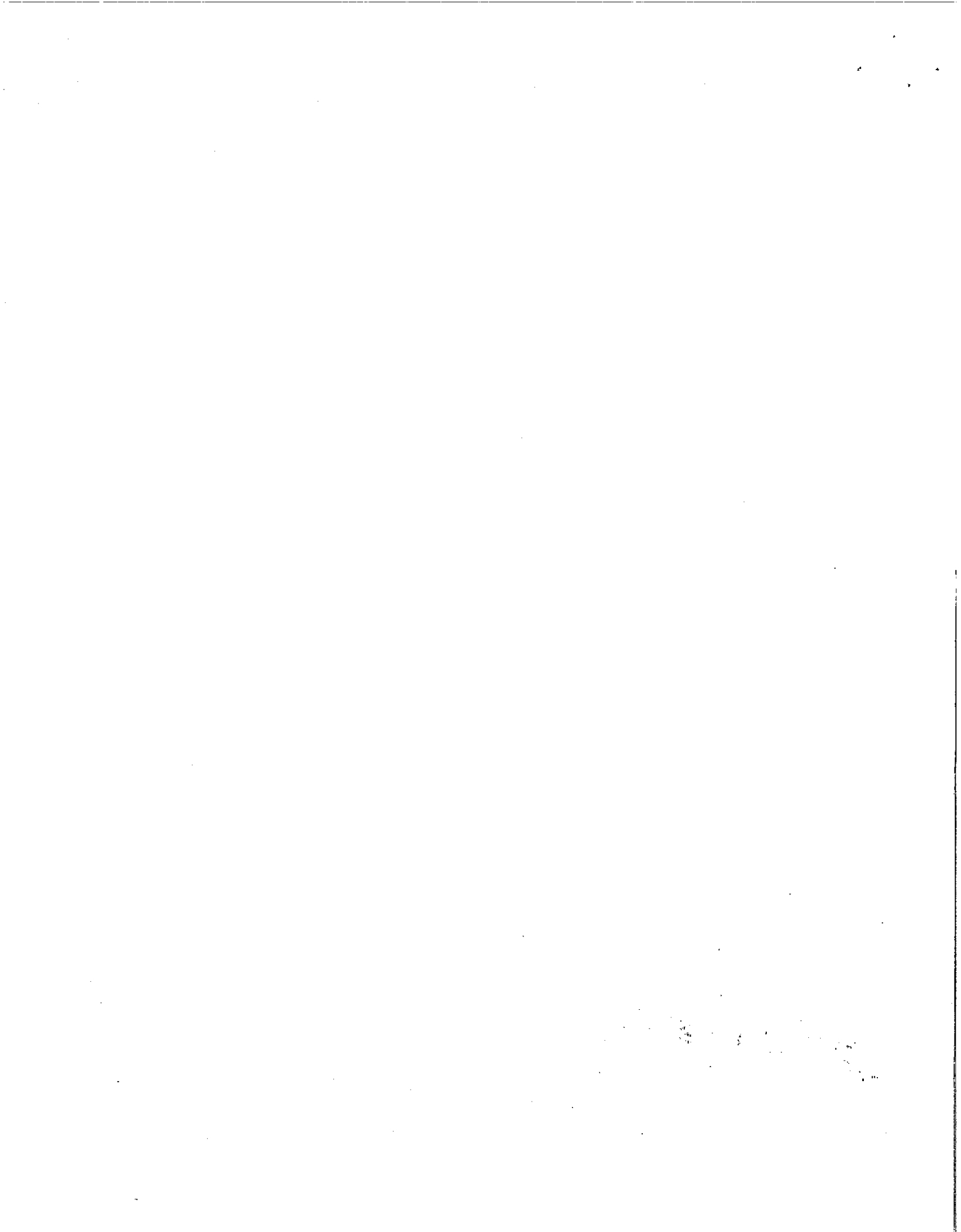
As required in the RHR, please identify, at your earliest convenience, your key point(s) of contact. Send all correspondence electronically to both Trent Wickman and Ann Mebane to ensure a successful consultation and SIP.

Sincerely,

  
Randy Moore  
Regional Forester

Enclosure





## Enclosure 1

Subject: New Hampshire and Regional Haze Rule Consultation with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service (FS)  
September 2006

*The following perspectives are merely suggestions or recommendations not direction or requirements. They are deliberately very similar to those prepared by the Department of Interior to contribute to a common sense of purpose for improving haze in all Class I areas. We are sending these perspectives to each state. In so doing, we hope to facilitate inter-state coordination. At the same time, we fully acknowledge the discretion afforded in the Regional Haze Rule (RHR) for unique and creative solutions by individual states in writing plans that reduce haze.*

### **Natural Condition and Uniform Rate**

These factors apply mainly to states that have Class I areas. Other states that contribute to visibility impairment in Class I areas located in a different state might consider including discussion and conclusions on these factors in their individual plans.

The basic calculation of baseline, natural condition, and uniform rate builds the foundation for the entire RHR State Implementation Plan (SIP) process. Considerable discussion and debate at the science and policy level has occurred regarding appropriate methods to be used. As a consequence, several equations that include varying parameters or multipliers are available. Because these calculations can have a significant effect on the resulting progress goal, it is important to provide a detailed description of the methods used in the SIP. Calculations that include only portions of established methods or utilize unique approaches will be better understood if the rationale for these differences is fully explained in the SIP or its supporting documentation. We encourage states to use calculations that are based on equations recommended by the Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE) steering committee and that are consistent with recommended approaches from the pertinent Regional Planning Organization (RPO) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) region.

### **Emission Inventories**

Given the complexities associated with modern comprehensive emission inventories, spending some considerable effort in describing how these inventories were developed and used will be important. Emission descriptions will be most informative if they include an evolutionary discussion that includes an actual, base-year inventory used to evaluate model performance; a typical base-year inventory that represents the five year, average state which establishes modeled visibility impacts; and various future year, controlled inventories that demonstrate future visibility conditions. Consider adding future year inventories that are clearly partitioned to delineate source types (by text, charts, or graphics) that are included in each model simulation. Benefits to future visibility conditions suggested in the SIP that are not also clearly linked to a future inventory or are not clearly included in future model analysis, will warrant additional discussion.

*clearly identify since states may use diff inv.*



*look at 5 factor  
for sources*

One part of your emission inventory includes the implementation of "Best Available Retrofit Technology" (BART) on a subset of pre-Prevention of Significant Deterioration sources. The BART source identification, elimination, and level determination will be of particular interest for review. We would prefer to see a clear progression through the three basic BART phases and a thorough description of the RHR prescribed factor analysis (if applicable). Consider discussing whether BART levels apply to individual or grouped source categories.

### **Area of Influence**

The area of influence of significant visibility-impairing sources is an important SIP element. We suggest that that each state clearly identify and apportion by state, or other geographic means, the significant levels of pollutants contributed to each Class I area by source. Developing this information together with neighboring States and Tribes will facilitate consistency. Discussions of changing source area contributions at both the base- and future-year levels will help demonstrate SIP progress. Consider the benefits of presenting this information in the form of transported mass by pollutant or through individually calculated visibility impairment measures. Using a percentage or "Top 10" ranking for current contributions by geographic area may or may not clearly describe progress over time.

### **Reasonable Progress Goals and Long Term Strategy**

*consistent*  
Establishing reasonable progress goals for Class I areas in your state and/or acknowledging reasonable progress goals for Class I areas in other states that are affected by emissions from your state, as well as defining associated emissions strategies to meet these goals, form the basis of the SIP process under the RHR.

In developing the statute's required Long Term Strategy (LTS), your state is offered broad flexibility when determining reasonable progress goals and associated emissions. As noted earlier, the RHR includes a requirement for states to assess a uniform rate of progress and compare that rate to the reasonable progress goals set by those states with Class I areas. We feel that this uniform rate of progress assessment is useful in determining the geographic and economic extent a state can consider when developing the LTS associated with the reasonable progress goals.

In general, we will be looking at the degree to which the LTS is supported by RPO technical work and at the level of consistency among the contributing states. For Class I areas where your state is setting a year 2018 reasonable progress goal of equal or less impairment compared to the uniform rate of progress, our review will focus holistically on (1) whether strategies are applied equitably across source types; (2) if both local and regional emission strategies have been fully examined; and (3) how consistent assessments and strategies are applied regionally.

For Class I areas where the reasonable progress goal is more impaired than the uniform rate of progress, consider presenting information on a component basis. Components could consist of emission source category as before, but also include contributions from individual pollutants or by geographic source area. Our intent is to better understand where and why a strategy falls short of the uniform progress rate goal.

Because each region has focused their emission control strategy on different conditions, presenting results in a component format may assist in showing what level of progress was made in the focus area, versus other less controllable factors.

### Wildland Fire

Your state has considerable flexibility as it addresses all anthropogenic sources of visibility impairment, including fire. The RHR requires consideration of smoke management techniques for agricultural and forestry management practices in the development of the LTS part of the SIP. On a short-term basis, fire has the potential to cause significant visibility reduction in Class I areas. If fire contributes to the index used to track long-term, reasonable progress in a Class I area, the visibility SIP should identify how it will be addressed. Your state may already have a smoke management program (SMP) that adequately describes how visibility impairment from fire will be addressed. If fire has been determined to contribute to visibility impairment, we suggest including a fire emissions inventory along with a comment about its reliability and a projection for changes to the future inventory. If your state has a SMP, is it a basic smoke management program or an enhanced smoke management plan? And has the SMP been certified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Interim Air Quality Policy on Wildland and Prescribed Fire? Identify the specific SMP requirements for minimizing visibility impairment in Class I areas. Are there differences in state regulation for the way in which smoke from agricultural burning and forest fires are treated? Is there a difference in the way emissions from wildfire, prescribed fire, and wildland-fire-use (WFU) fire are identified and treated on private, state, and federal lands?

### Regional Consistency

The RPOs have been working toward regionally-consistent approaches to address visibility impairment throughout the SIP development process. There may be circumstances when different methods were used or impairment assessments reached different conclusions. The FLM understands that each state knows what emission control methods or air quality management strategies work best for its areas. Each state may wish to develop strategies that are independent from RPO or neighboring areas.

In this context, our review of "regional consistency" will have less to do with individual discretion each state has in making decisions, and more on how well a group of states identifies and addresses similar agreed upon goals for each Class I area within a common area of influence.

Regional consistency can also be difficult to evaluate if neighboring SIPs (or portions of SIPs) are released for review at different times. We expect that thorough inter-state consultation processes will lead to consistent descriptions of apportionment and emission control goals, thus resulting in development of similar progress goals, regardless of release dates.

### Verification and Contingencies

Little emphasis has been placed in the RHR on verification and even less on contingency planning. By rule, each SIP must identify the monitoring data used to specify the original baseline and also as part of an ongoing progress review at five year intervals.

*1 page  
- smoke mgmt plans  
WRAP - how a template  
- 13 Class I area & identify as sensitive area (recognition Class I am)*

don't need to include - try to address how will deal w/ in future  
technology and change

Given the uncertain future of any individual monitoring site, we suggest that the SIP address the representation of both primary and alternative data sites for each Class I area.

Consider not only the data necessary to measure progress, but also how to account for and mitigate both unexpected and reasonably foreseeable emissions growth, changes to the geographic distribution of emissions, and substantive errors that may be found in emission inventories or other technical bases of the SIPs. These factors, as well as other unanticipated circumstances, may adversely affect your state's ability to achieve the emissions reductions projected by the SIP. Considering these factors through adaptive management or continual review strategies may assist in avoiding these circumstances.

#### **Coordination and Consultation**

The 1999 RHR requires states to consult with the FLM agencies at least 60 days prior to holding any public hearing on a RHR, SIP, or SIP revision (40 CFR 51.308(i)). As named in the cover letter to this enclosure, a single FS air specialist has been assigned to your state.

J. Underhill



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

National Wildlife Refuge System

Branch of Air Quality

7333 W. Jefferson Ave., Suite 375

Lakewood, CO 80235-2017

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWS/ANWS-AR-AQ

August 1, 2006

RECEIVED  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

AUG 01 2006

AIR RESOURCES DIVISION

Mr. Robert Scott  
Director, Air Resources Division  
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services  
P.O. Box 95  
Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095

Subject: Regional Haze Rule Consultation with Federal Land Management Agencies

Dear Mr. Scott:

Over the past several years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), National Park Service (NPS), and Forest Service have participated in regional planning efforts addressing ways for States, and Tribes if they so choose, to protect and improve visibility in Class I national parks and wildernesses through implementation of the Regional Haze Rule (RHR). Along with other stakeholders, we have had many opportunities to contribute to ongoing Regional Planning Organization (RPO) development of policy guidance and technical information. As States begin to develop their regional haze State implementation plans (SIPs) based on RPO work, we are interested in working directly with your staff to offer our perspective as managers of affected Class I areas and to maintain our support for an effective national regional haze program.

The primary purpose of this letter is to provide you general insights about FWS and NPS interests with respect to upcoming SIP development and consultation activities. It is not intended to dictate policy or guidance. Rather, in the enclosure to this letter we include discussion on a list of topics to enhance your understanding of our views on key SIP components. We also provide lead contacts for FWS and NPS staff that will be available to work with your staff during early phases of SIP development as well as coordinate the required formal 60-day review/consultation with the official Federal Land Manager (FLM) for the Department of the Interior.

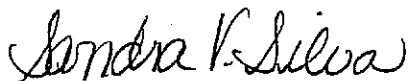
The RHR requires States to inform the FLMs of the appropriate State contact for exchange of information regarding SIP development. Many States provided us with a contact person shortly after the RHR was published. It would be helpful if you could confirm your contact or provide a current single point of contact for your State to the individuals noted in the enclosure. Additional information regarding your SIP timelines would also be very helpful.



Our highest priority in working with you over the course of the next year and a half will be to help you develop a successful SIP. We understand the complexities of developing a plan reliant on non-linear relationships between emissions and subsequent visibility improvements. Our emphasis is to work with you and, as your partners, to ensure each plan utilizes all reasonable means to obtain realistic goals. We share the common goal of improving visibility in all Class I areas throughout the United States, and we would like to use this planning process to maximize goal achievement. Our hope is that through this communication we can complete the RHR requirement of formal consultation with ease and productivity.

We are looking forward to continuing our work with you and your staff as the regional haze SIPs are developed. Please don't hesitate to contact us with questions.

Sincerely,



Sandra V. Silva  
Chief, Air Quality Branch  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Christine L. Shaver  
Chief, Air Resources Division  
National Park Service

Enclosure

cc:

Forest Service: Rich Fisher, Donna Lamb  
EPA Regional Air Division Directors  
Regional Planning Organization Directors

**Regional Haze State Implementation Plan Coordination**  
**Fish & Wildlife Service and National Park Service**  
**August 1, 2006**

This document is designed to provide you general insights about U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and National Park Service (NPS) interests with respect to upcoming Regional Haze Rule (RHR) State Implementation Plan (SIP) development and consultation activities. It is not intended to dictate policy or guidance.

**Baseline, Natural Condition, and Uniform Rate**

These factors apply mainly to States that have Class I areas. Other States that contribute to visibility impairment in Class I areas should consider including discussion and conclusions on these factors in their individual plans.

As you know, the basic calculation of baseline, natural condition, and uniform rate builds the foundation for the entire RHR SIP process. Considerable discussion and debate at the science and policy level has occurred regarding appropriate methods to be used. As a consequence, several equations that include varying parameters or multipliers are available. Because these calculations can have a significant effect on the resulting progress goal, it is critical that the State provide a detailed description of the methods used in its SIP. If calculations include only portions of established methods or utilize previously undocumented or unsupported approaches, more justification should be included in the SIP or its supporting documentation. We encourage States to consider calculations that are based on equations recommended by the IMPROVE steering committee and that are consistent with recommended approaches from the appropriate RPO and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) region.

**Emission Inventories**

Given the complexities associated with modern, comprehensive emission inventories, considerable effort should be placed on describing how these inventories were developed and used. We would like to see emission descriptions demonstrate an evolution that includes: an actual, base-year inventory used to evaluate model performance; a typical, base-year inventory that represents the five year, average condition which establishes modeled visibility impacts; and various future year, control scenarios (e.g., for required air pollution control programs or long term strategy measures) that demonstrate future visibility conditions. It would assist our review if future year inventories were clearly partitioned to delineate source types (by text, charts, or graphics) that are included in each model simulation. Improved future visibility conditions claimed in the SIP that are not also clearly identified in a future inventory or are not clearly included in future model analysis, will likely need additional and possibly considerable, attention and justification.

One part of your emission inventory includes the implementation of "Best Available Retrofit Technology" (BART) on a subset of pre-Prevention of Significant Deterioration sources. BART source identification, elimination, and control determinations will be of particular interest for review. We would prefer to see a clear progression through the

three basic BART phases and a thorough description of the RHR prescribed factor analysis (if applicable). Discussions should clearly identify whether BART control levels apply to individual or grouped source categories.

#### **Area of Influence**

As you are aware, the area of influence of significant, visibility-impairing sources is an important SIP element. This area should clearly be identified or apportioned by State, or other geographic means, to encompass emission sources that contribute significant levels of pollutants to each Class I area as identified in your regional haze SIP. As such, these areas should be developed in conjunction with neighboring States and Tribes.

Discussions of source areas of influence at both the base- and future-year levels can help establish a strong showing for SIP progress. States should consider the benefits of presenting this information in the form of transported mass by pollutant or through individually calculated visibility impairment indices. Using a percentage or "Top 10" ranking for current contributions by geographic area may not clearly describe progress over time.

#### **Reasonable Progress Goals and Long Term Strategy**

As you also know, establishing reasonable progress goals for Class I areas in your State and/or acknowledging reasonable progress goals for Class I areas in other States that are affected by emissions from your State, as well as defining associated emissions strategies to meet these goals, form the basis of the SIP process under the RHR.

In developing the Long Term Strategy (LTS) required by the RHR, your State has broad flexibility when determining reasonable progress goals and associated emissions. As noted earlier, the RHR includes a requirement for States to assess a uniform rate of progress and compare that rate to the reasonable progress goals set by those States with Class I areas. We believe that this uniform rate of progress assessment is useful in determining the geographic and economic extent a State should consider when developing the LTS associated with the reasonable progress goals.

In general, we are looking at the degree to which the LTS is supported by RPO technical work and at the level of consistency among the contributing States. For Class I areas where the State is setting a 2018 reasonable progress goal of equal or less impairment compared to the uniform rate of progress, it would assist our review to present information on how local, regional, and national emission strategies were considered and applied to address visibility impairment broken down by source category.

For Class I areas where the reasonable progress goal is more impaired than the uniform rate of progress, States should consider presenting additional information on a component basis. Components could consist of emission source categories as before, but also include contributions from individual pollutants or by geographic source area. Our intent is to better understand where and why a strategy falls short of the uniform progress rate goal. Because each region has focused their emission control strategy on different conditions, presenting results in a component format may assist in showing what level of progress was made in the focus area, versus other less controllable factors.

## **Fire**

Your State has considerable flexibility as it addresses all anthropogenic sources of visibility impairment, including fire. The RHR requires consideration of smoke management techniques for agricultural and forestry management practices in the development of the LTS part of the SIP. On a short-term basis, fire, both natural and anthropogenic, has the potential to cause significant visibility reduction in Class I areas. If anthropogenic fire contributes to the index used to track long-term, reasonable progress in a Class I area, the visibility SIP should identify how it will be addressed. Your State may already have a smoke management program (SMP) that adequately describes how visibility impairment from fire will be addressed. If fire has been determined to contribute to visibility impairment, the SIP should contain a comprehensive emissions inventory for all fire emissions and a statement relating to its accuracy. It should also identify whether or not fire emissions are projected to increase, decrease, or stay the same, and how these projections were determined. For those States with a SMP, the SIP should identify its type, i.e., a basic smoke management program or an enhanced smoke management plan, and if the plan has been certified consistent with EPA's *Interim Air Quality Policy on Wildland and Prescribed Fire*. It would also be useful to know specific SMP requirements for minimizing visibility impairment in Class I areas and classification of the various types of wildland fire (wildfire, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use fire) as either natural or anthropogenic. Any differences regarding the regulation of agricultural burning versus prescribed burning by private, State or Federal land managers should also be identified with discussion of the basis for any differences provided.

## **Regional Consistency**

The Regional Planning Organizations (RPOs) have been working toward regionally-consistent approaches to address visibility impairment throughout the SIP development process. There may be circumstances when different methods were used or impairment assessments reached different conclusions. We understand that each State knows what emission control methods or air quality management strategies work best for its areas. Each State may wish to develop strategies that are independent from their RPO or neighboring areas.

In this context, our review of "regional consistency" will have less to do with individual discretion each State has in making decisions, and more on how well a group of States identifies and addresses similar goals for each Class I area within a common area of influence.

Regional consistency can also be difficult to evaluate if neighboring SIPs (or portions of SIPs) are released for review at different times. It is our hope that thorough inter-State consultation processes will lead to consistent descriptions of apportionment and emission control goals, thus resulting in development of similar progress goals, regardless of release dates.



### **Verification and Contingencies**

Little emphasis has been placed in the RHR on verification and even less on contingency planning. Each SIP must identify monitoring data as part of the original baseline and should include continued monitoring data collection and assessment as part of an ongoing progress review at five year intervals. Given the uncertain future of any individual monitoring site, the SIP should address the representativeness of both primary and alternative data sites.

We encourage States to not only consider the need for these data to measure progress, but also how the plan accounts for and reconciles both unexpected and reasonably foreseeable emissions growth, changes to the geographic distribution of emissions, and substantive errors that may be found in emission inventories or other technical bases of the SIPs. These factors, as well as other unanticipated circumstances, may adversely affect your State's ability to achieve the emissions reductions projected by the SIP. Considering these factors through adaptive management or routine review processes may assist in mitigating these circumstances.

### **Coordination and Consultation**

The 1999 RHR requires States to consult with the Federal Land Management agencies at least 60 days prior to holding any public hearing on a RHR SIP or SIP revision (40 CFR 51.308(i)). Specifically, the Federal Land Manager (FLM) for the Department of the Interior (DOI) is the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. However, assistance in the development and technical review of Regional Haze SIPs will be conducted by the FWS Branch of Air Quality and NPS Air Resources Division.

To help facilitate consultation with the FLMS, each Bureau has developed a review strategy that includes a single point of contact for all interaction with us. For your State, primary DOI contact names are:

**Tim Allen**  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Mailing Address:  
7333 W. Jefferson, Suite 375  
Lakewood, CO 80235  
Phone: 303-914-3802 Fax: 303-969-5444  
Email: [Tim.Allen@fws.gov](mailto:Tim.Allen@fws.gov)

**Bruce Polkowsky**  
National Park Service

Mailing Address:	Overnight Packages:
NPS-ARD	NPS-ARD
P.O. Box 25287	12795 W. Alameda Parkway
Denver, CO 80225	Lakewood, CO 80228
Phone: 303-987-6944	Fax: 303-969-2822
Email: <a href="mailto:Bruce_Polkowsky@nps.gov">Bruce_Polkowsky@nps.gov</a>	

All questions and inquires regarding formal or informal consultation can be directed to these contacts. We would appreciate communications in electronic form as much as possible. This will allow us to quickly share appropriate documents among staff and between agencies. The contacts listed above will also be able to inform you of additional resources and information we can provide. Resource and information examples include progress reports, discipline experts, or implementation advice. Although the RHR places a strong emphasis on individual discretion in developing these plans, the NPS and FWS would be happy to provide more specific suggestions or information, in a form most useful to you, upon request.

