

June 20, 2016

Administrator Gina McCarthy U.S. Environmental Protection Agency William Jefferson Clinton Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20460

Subject: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0531; Protection of Visibility: Amendments to Requirements for State Plans

Administrator McCarthy:

The Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA)¹ requests an extension of the deadline for submitting comments on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed rule, Protection of Visibility: Amendments to Requirements for State Plans. ² EPA should extend the comment period for a minimum of 45 days following publication of updated guidance on developing regional haze state implementation plans.

The proposed rule states that "The EPA also intends to provide states with updated guidance on the development of regional haze SIPs, in consultation with the states and FLMs, separately from this rulemaking." It appears the notice of this guidance was sent to the White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs on May 24, 2016 and is undergoing Executive Order 12866 review. This guidance and the proposed rule are interrelated, and allowing state and local agencies to examine them in tandem during an expanded period will help ensure informed, meaningful comments.

Thank you considering this request for an extension. If you have any questions regarding our request, please contact cwoods@csg.org or (859) 244-8040.

Sincerely,

Clinton J. Woods, Executive Director

Chita J. Wholen

AAPCA

¹ The Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA) is a national, non-profit, consensus-driven organization focused on assisting state and local air quality agencies and personnel with implementation and technical issues associated with the federal Clean Air Act. Eighteen state environmental agencies currently sit on AAPCA's Board of Directors. AAPCA is housed in Lexington, Kentucky as an affiliate of The Council of State Governments. You can find more information about AAPCA at: http://www.cleanairact.org.

² 81 FR 26941-26976.

³ 81 FR 26945.

⁴ RIN: 2060-ZA23.