

EPA Region 8 Air and Radiation Division Updates

Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies

Adrienne Sandoval

April 6, 2023

Region 8 Priorities

- Staffing and Resources
- EJ Implementation
- Planning – SIPs, Regional Haze, etc.
- Permitting
- Grant Implementation
- Tribal Support

Region 8 Staffing Updates

Adrienne Sandoval
Director

Kerri Fiedler (4/9)
Deputy Director

Monica Morales
Deputy Director
Retiring 4/30

Scott Jackson
Air Quality Planning Branch

Vacant
Air Toxics, Partnerships
& Program Support Branch

Adam Eisele
Air Permitting &
Monitoring Branch

Planning Updates

- Regional Haze
 - Acting on 2nd planning period Regional Haze SIPs
 - Resolving remaining litigation on 1st planning period SIP/FIP actions
- Interstate Transport
 - Implementing the 2015 Ozone FIP
- Ozone and PM 2.5 nonattainment areas
 - Denver Ozone NAA
 - Uinta Basin Ozone NAA
 - Salt Lake City Ozone and PM 2.5 NAA's

Permitting

- EJ in State Oversight
 - Routinely conducting EJ analyses using EJScreen
 - Posting title V comments to the Region 8 air permitting website for public awareness
- EJ in Direct Implementation for Tribal Areas
 - Routinely conducting EJ analyses using EJScreen
 - Continuing to work with Tribes on enhancing meaningful public involvement
- CO Permitting Highlights
 - November 7, 2022 the Denver Metro North Front Range was redesignated from serious nonattainment for ozone to severe lowering the title V permitting threshold from 50 tons to 25 tons
 - There were 262 title V existing facilities under the 50 ton threshold -> approximately 650 with the lower threshold
 - EPA expects to receive all additional 400 permits for review by mid-2025

IRA Clean Air Act Grants

- All six Region 8 States (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT and WY) intend to apply.
- Eight Tribes have expressed interest in applying: S. Ute, Spirit Lake, Standing Rock, Ute Mountain Ute, Ute Indian Tribe, Northwestern Band of Shoshone, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Blackfeet.
- Applications are due in grants.gov by April 17, 2023
- More information: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/clean-air-act-grants-under-inflation-reduction-act>

IRA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

- CO, MT, ND, UT, and WY have submitted Notices of Intent to Participate (NOIPs) in the Phase 1 planning grant program
- Four metro areas in EPA Region 8 have an opportunity to participate: Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO; Salt Lake City, UT; Sioux Falls, SD; and Rapid City, SD (NOIPs due by April 28)
- Approx 9 Tribes have expressed interest in applying thus far
- In order to apply for Phase 2 CPRG implementation funds, project will need to be “covered” by a planning grant
- CPRG planning grant applications from states are due in grants.gov on or before April 28 (metro areas: due May 31; Tribes: due June 15)
- More information: <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/climate-pollution-reduction-grants>

IRA/ARP Air Monitoring

- 12 proposals selected for funding in Region 8, totaling \$5,056,722 (awarded as joint IRA-ARP grants)
- Applicants selected: UT Department of Environmental Quality (2 awards), City of Ft. Collins, Salt Lake County, Black Parents United Foundation, Cultivando, 350 Colorado, MT Department of Environmental Quality, The Keya Foundation, San Juan Basin Public Health, Jefferson County Public Health, Adams County Health Department
- Projects include air toxics, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀ and VOC monitoring, ozone and methane monitoring
- Total of \$206 million EPA-wide under IRA for various air monitoring programs – more information to come, including funding announcements

Clean School Bus Rebate Program

- 19 rebates awarded in Region 8 for 48 electric buses, totaling \$18,076,000.
- 4 awards in CO, 3 in MT, 3 in ND, 6 in SD, 2 in UT, 1 in WY.
- Selectees currently providing Purchase Orders and Payment Request Forms for their buses and associated infrastructure for EPA review and approval.
- Another rebate program is expected to be released in the Fall of 2023.

Tribal Updates

- The Southern Ute Indian Tribe has applied for delegation to implement the federal Tribal Minor NSR rule, including the national FIP for true minor oil and natural gas sources. The Tribe was delegated and currently implements its own Title V Program.
- Region 8 has completed two tribal consultations on the 'Supplemental Proposal to Reduce Methane and Other Harmful Pollution from Oil and Natural Gas Operations'.

U&O FIP Overview

- Published in the Federal Register December 8, 2022.
- Effective **February 6, 2023**
- Compliance required by **February 6, 2024** (unless extension formally requested and granted)
- Reduce volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from affected equipment/activities at new and existing oil and natural gas facilities on the Reservation
- U&O FIP expected to result in a 23,000 tpy VOC reduction
 - ~32% reduction for Reservation, ~28% reduction for Uinta Basin
- ~**3,850** existing sources required to implement one or more VOC control requirements