

pursuant to section 110 and parts C and D of the Federal Clean Air Act.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before April 29, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Ms. Adina Wiley, Air Permits Section (6PD-R), Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733. Comments may also be submitted electronically or through hand delivery/courier by following the detailed instructions in the **ADDRESSES** section of the direct final rule located in the rules section of this **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Adina Wiley, 214-665-2115, wiley.adina@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the final rules section of this **Federal Register**, the EPA is approving the State's SIP submittal as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as noncontroversial submittal and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no relevant adverse comments are received in response to this action no further activity is contemplated. If the EPA receives relevant adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and those public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. The EPA will not institute a second comment period. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

For additional information, see the direct final rule which is located in the rules section of this **Federal Register**.

Dated: March 16, 2015.

Samuel Coleman,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 6.

[FR Doc. 2015-07123 Filed 3-27-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R03-OAR-2015-0028; FRL-9925-47-Region 3]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; West Virginia; Permits for Construction and Major Modification of Major Stationary Sources for the Prevention of Significant Deterioration

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing conditional approval for two State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions submitted by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) for the State of West Virginia on July 1, 2014 and June 6, 2012. These revisions pertain to West Virginia's Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit program and include provisions for preconstruction permitting requirements for major sources of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) found in West Virginia regulations. This action is being taken under the Clean Air Act (CAA).

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before April 29, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID Number EPA-R03-OAR-2015-0028 by one of the following methods:

A. *www.regulations.gov*. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

B. *Email:* campbell.dave@epa.gov.

C. *Mail:* EPA-R03-OAR-2015-0028, David Campbell, Associate Director, Office of Permits and Air Toxics, Mailcode 3AP10, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103.

D. *Hand Delivery:* At the previously-listed EPA Region III address. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

Instructions: Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA-R03-OAR-2015-0028. EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change, and may be made available online at *www.regulations.gov*, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through *www.regulations.gov* or email. The *www.regulations.gov* Web site is an "anonymous access" system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an email comment directly to EPA without going through *www.regulations.gov*, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you

include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses.

Docket: All documents in the electronic docket are listed in the *www.regulations.gov* index. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, *i.e.*, CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the Internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in *www.regulations.gov* or in hard copy during normal business hours at the Air Protection Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. Copies of the State submittals are available at the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Air Quality, 601 57th Street SE., Charleston, West Virginia 25304.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Paul Wentworth, (215) 814-2183, or by email at Wentworth.paul@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The WVDEP submitted two SIP revisions to EPA on June 6, 2012 (the 2012 submittal) and on July 1, 2014 (the 2014 submittal). EPA is acting on these two submittals as a whole.¹ A summary of all the changes made in each of the submittals has been included in the docket for this action in a document titled, "Summary of West Virginia PSD Changes." These SIP revision requests, if approved, would revise West Virginia's currently approved PSD program by amending Series 14 under Title 45 of West Virginia Code of State Rules (45CSR14).

On May 16, 2008, EPA promulgated a rule to implement the 1997 PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), including changes to the New Source Review (NSR) program (the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule). See 73 FR 28321. The

¹ EPA is proposing to act on both SIP submittals in this notice because each submittal contains necessary procedural information related to West Virginia's revisions to its PSD regulations and development of its SIP submittals, which are required for SIP revisions by 40 CFR parts 51 and 52.

2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule revised the NSR program requirements to establish the framework for implementing preconstruction permit review for the PM_{2.5} NAAQS in both attainment and nonattainment areas.² The 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} rule: (1) Required NSR permits to address directly emitted PM_{2.5} and precursor pollutants; (2) established significant emission rates for direct PM_{2.5} and precursor pollutants (including sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and oxides of nitrogen (NO_x)); (3) established PM_{2.5} emission offsets; and (4) required states to account for gases that condense to form particles (condensables) in PM_{2.5} emission limits.³

The 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule (as well as the more general PM_{2.5} NAAQS implementation rule, the 2007 “Final Clean Air Fine Particle Implementation Rule” (2007 PM_{2.5} Implementation Rule)⁴), was the subject of litigation before the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (D.C. Circuit) in *Natural Resources Defense Council v. EPA* (hereafter, *NRDC v. EPA*).⁵ On January 4, 2013, the D.C. Circuit remanded to EPA both the 2007 PM_{2.5} Implementation Rule and the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule. The court found that in both rules EPA erred in implementing the 1997 PM_{2.5} NAAQS solely pursuant to the general implementation provisions of subpart 1 of part D of title I of the CAA (subpart 1), rather than pursuant to the additional implementation provisions specific to particulate matter in subpart 4 of part D of title I (subpart 4).⁶ As a result, the D.C. Circuit remanded both rules and instructed EPA “to re-promulgate these rules pursuant to subpart 4 consistent with this opinion.” Although the D.C. Circuit declined to establish a deadline for EPA’s response, EPA intends to respond promptly to the court’s remand and to

promulgate new generally applicable implementation regulations for the PM_{2.5} NAAQS in accordance with the requirements of subpart 4. In the interim, however, states and EPA still need to proceed with implementation of the 1997 PM_{2.5} NAAQS in a timely and effective fashion in order to meet statutory obligations under the CAA and to assure the protection of public health intended by those NAAQS. In a June 2, 2014 final rulemaking entitled “Identification of Nonattainment Classification and Deadlines for Submission of State Implementation Plan (SIP) Provisions for the 1997 Fine Particle (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) and 2006 PM_{2.5} NAAQS; Final Rule,” (79 FR 31566), EPA identified the classification status under subpart 4 for areas currently designated nonattainment for the 1997 and 2006 PM_{2.5} NAAQS.⁷

As the requirements of Subpart 4 only pertain to nonattainment areas, EPA does not consider the portions of the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule that address requirements for PM_{2.5} attainment and unclassifiable areas to be affected by the *NRDC v. EPA* opinion. Moreover, EPA does not anticipate the need to revise any PSD permitting requirements promulgated in the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule in order to comply with the D.C. Circuit’s decision. This proposed rulemaking addresses West Virginia’s PSD regulations. Thus, EPA has evaluated the regulations with applicable PSD requirements in the CAA, its implementing regulations, and the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule.

The CAA’s PSD provisions also establish maximum allowable increases over baseline concentrations—also known as “increments”—for certain pollutants. EPA has the task of promulgating regulations to prevent the significant deterioration of air quality that would result from the emissions of pollutants EPA began regulating after Congress enacted the PSD provisions in the CAA, which includes PM_{2.5}. The PSD provisions establish preconstruction review and permitting of new or modified sources of air pollution. In 2007, EPA proposed a rule establishing increments for PM_{2.5} and also proposed two screening tools that would exempt permit applicants from some air quality analysis and monitoring required for PSD: Significant impact levels (SILs) and significant monitoring concentration (SMC). See 72 FR 54112 (September 21, 2007). In our

October 20, 2010 final rule (the PM_{2.5} PSD Increments-SILs-SMC Rule), EPA set values for both SILs and SMC for PM_{2.5}. See 75 FR 64864.

The Sierra Club challenged EPA’s authority to implement PM_{2.5} SILs and SMC for PSD purposes as promulgated in the PM_{2.5} PSD Increments-SILs-SMC Rule. See *Sierra Club v. EPA*, 705 F.3d 458 (D.C. Cir. 2013). On January 22, 2013, the D.C. Circuit granted a request from EPA to vacate and remand to the Agency the portions of the PM_{2.5} PSD Increments-SILs-SMC Rule addressing the SILs for PM_{2.5} (found in paragraph (k)(2) in 40 CFR 51.166 and 52.21), except for the parts codifying the PM_{2.5} SILs at 40 CFR 51.165(b)(2), so that the EPA could voluntarily correct an error in the provisions. *Id.* at 463–66. The D.C. Circuit also vacated parts of the PSD Increments-SILs-SMC Rule establishing the PM_{2.5} SMC, finding that the Agency had exceeded its statutory authority with respect to these provisions. *Id.* at 469.

In response to the D.C. Circuit’s decision, EPA took final action on December 9, 2013 to remove the SIL provisions from the Federal PSD regulations in 40 CFR 52.21 and to revise the SMC for PM_{2.5} to zero micrograms per cubic meter. See 78 FR 73698. Because the D.C. Circuit vacated the SMC provisions in 40 CFR 51.166(i)(5)(i)(c) and 52.21(i)(5)(i)(c), EPA revised the existing concentration for the PM_{2.5} SMC listed in sections 51.166(i)(5)(i)(c) and 52.21(i)(5)(i)(c) to zero micrograms per cubic meter. EPA did not entirely remove PM_{2.5} as a listed pollutant in the SMC provisions because to do so might lead to the issuance of permits that contradict the holding of the D.C. Circuit as to the statutory monitoring requirements. *Id.* (providing EPA’s explanation for including the zero micrograms per cubic meter SMC).

On May 9, 2013, EPA had disapproved a narrow portion of a SIP revision submitted by the State of West Virginia on August 31, 2011 for revising West Virginia’s PSD requirements in 45 CSR14 because the submittal did not satisfy the Federal requirement for inclusion of condensable emissions of PM (condensables) within the definition of “regulated new source review (NSR) pollutant” (at 45CSR14 section 2.66) for PM_{2.5} and PM emissions less than or equal to ten micrometers in diameter (PM₁₀).⁸

² The PSD permitting program is the NSR permit program in areas attaining a particular NAAQS.

³ On October 25, 2012, EPA took final action to amend the definition of “regulated NSR pollutant” promulgated in the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule regarding the particulate matter (PM) condensable provision at 40 CFR 51.166(b)(49)(vi) and 52.21(b)(50)(i). See 77 FR 65107. The rulemaking removed the inadvertent requirement in the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule that the measurement of condensable “particulate matter emissions” be included as part of the measurement and regulation of “particulate matter emissions.”

⁴ 72 FR 20586 (April 25, 2007).

⁵ 706 F.3d 428 (D.C. Cir. 2013).

⁶ The court’s opinion did not specifically address the point that implementation under subpart 4 requirements would still require consideration of subpart 1 requirements, to the extent that subpart 4 did not override subpart 1. EPA assumes that the court presumed that EPA would address this issue of potential overlap between subpart 1 and subpart 4 requirements in subsequent actions.

⁷ That June 2, 2014 rulemaking (79 FR 31566) also established a December 31, 2014 deadline for the submission of any additional attainment related SIP elements that may be needed to meet the applicable requirements of subpart 4.

⁸ See 78 FR 27062 (May 9, 2013). The limited disapproval of the narrow portion of the August 31, 2011 SIP provision (concerning 45CSR14 section 2.66) is discussed in 78 FR 27062 and in 40 CFR 52.2522(j)(1) specifically.

II. Summary of SIP Revision and EPA Analysis

A. Summary of SIP Revision

Specifically, the revisions submitted by WVDEP on July 1, 2014 and June 6, 2012 involve amendments to 45CSR14 (Permits for Construction and Major

Modification of Major Stationary Sources for the Prevention of Significant Deterioration) based on the Federal regulatory actions discussed above in section I. A summary of the changes made in the 2012 and 2014 submittals are available in the docket in a document titled, “Summary of West

Virginia NSR Changes.” Generally, the revisions in the 2012 submittal were submitted to incorporate provisions related to the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule. The 2014 submittal revises certain subdivisions of the 2012 submittal as shown in the table below:

Rule 45CSR14 subdivision	Description of change
2.66.a.1	Added PM condensable emissions to definition of “regulated NSR pollutant”.
2.66.a.2	Added language identifying precursors to NAAQS pollutants to the definition of “regulated NSR pollutant”.
16.7.c	Deleted 24-hour de minimis air quality impact concentration value for PM _{2.5} (aka SMC for PM _{2.5}).
16.1.a & b	Added provision exempting requirements of 9.1 for stationary sources based on completeness date of permit applications.
9.2	Significant Impact Levels. Deleted this provision in its entirety.

In general, the 2014 submittal adds PM condensable emissions to the definition of “regulated NSR pollutant” and deletes SILs and SMC for PM_{2.5} in the 45CSR14 provisions submitted for SIP approval.

B. EPA Analysis

EPA finds the revisions to 45CSR14 contained in the 2012 submittal and the 2014 submittal which were submitted by WVDEP for approval mirror the PSD requirements of the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule with certain exceptions described in the next paragraph. The 2014 submittal addresses and corrects the deficiency identified in EPA’s May 9, 2013 disapproval (78 FR 27062) by adding language to the provision at 45CSR14 section 2.66.a.1 which now includes PM condensable emissions in the definition of “regulated NSR pollutant.” Thus, EPA finds West Virginia has addressed the deficiency noted in our limited disapproval in 78 FR 27062.

However, while the 2014 submittal appropriately removes SILs for PM_{2.5} consistent with the D.C. Circuit’s *Sierra Club v. EPA* decision and our final December 9, 2013 rulemaking (78 FR 73698), West Virginia’s PSD provision at 45CSR14–16.7.c (included in the 2014 submittal) does not include a SMC value of zero micrograms per cubic meter for PM_{2.5} consistent with the D.C. Circuit’s *Sierra Club v. EPA* decision and our December 9, 2013 rulemaking (78 FR 73698) which addressed the D.C. Circuit’s vacature of the SMC provisions in 40 CFR parts 51 and 52 for PM_{2.5}. Therefore, West Virginia’s PSD regulation, 45CSR14, does not fully meet the requirements for PSD programs as set forth in the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule, the D.C. Circuit’s decision on SILs and SMC in *Sierra Club v. EPA*, and in EPA’s December 9, 2013 rulemaking addressing that decision for SILs and SMC.

However, on January 20, 2015, West Virginia committed to submitting an additional SIP revision with a revised PSD regulation at 45CSR14–16.7.c which will incorporate a SMC value of zero micrograms per cubic meter for PM_{2.5} to address this discrepancy. West Virginia committed to submitting this SIP revision no later than one year following the effective date of the final rulemaking notice for conditional approval of the 2012 and the 2014 submittals so that EPA can conditionally approve the 2012 and 2014 submittals.⁹ See CAA section 110(k)(4). With the exception of the absence of the SMC value of zero micrograms per cubic meter for PM_{2.5} which WVDEP has committed to address, EPA finds the 2012 and 2014 submittals meet applicable requirements for a PSD permitting program in the CAA, its implementing regulations, and the 2008 NSR PM_{2.5} Rule. The EPA is soliciting public comments on the issues discussed in this document. Any comments submitted in a timely manner will be considered before taking final action.

III. Proposed Action

EPA is proposing conditional approval of these West Virginia SIP revisions, the 2012 and 2014 submittals, because West Virginia is committing to submit an additional SIP revision addressing the deficiency identified by EPA regarding the deletion of the PM_{2.5} SMC within one year of the date of EPA’s final conditional approval and because the submittals otherwise meet CAA requirements as discussed in this proposed rulemaking. Once EPA has determined that West Virginia has

satisfied this condition, the conditional approval of the 2012 and 2014 submittals will become a full approval. Should West Virginia fail to meet the condition specified above, the conditional approval of the 2012 and 2014 submittals will convert to a disapproval pursuant to CAA section 110(k)(4).

The full or partial disapproval of a SIP revision triggers the requirement under CAA section 110(c) that EPA promulgate a federal implementation plan (FIP) no later than two years from the date of the disapproval unless the State corrects the deficiency, and the Administrator approves the plan or plan revision before the Administrator promulgates such FIP. EPA has determined that West Virginia’s 2014 submittal has rectified the deficiency regarding including condensables in the definition of regulated NSR pollutant noted in our limited disapproval in 78 FR 27062. Therefore, upon final approval of the 2014 submittal, the EPA is no longer required to promulgate a FIP to address the issue of PM condensables in the definition of regulated NSR pollutant for West Virginia’s PSD permit program, and our narrow disapproval of the August 31, 2011 PSD SIP (for failure to include condensables in definition of regulated NSR pollutant) will become a full approval. However, EPA is proposing conditional approval for the 2012 and 2014 submittals due to West Virginia’s lack of a PM_{2.5} SMC with the value of zero micrograms per cubic meter.

IV. Incorporation by Reference

In this rule, EPA is proposing to include in a final EPA rule regulatory text that includes incorporation by reference. In accordance with requirements of 1 CFR 51.5, the EPA is proposing to incorporate by reference the WV regulations at 45CSR14 regarding the Prevention of Significant

⁹ West Virginia’s letter from the Secretary of WVDEP committing to submit a revised provision in 45CSR14 to address the SMC for PM_{2.5} is available in the docket for this rulemaking (EPA–R03–OAR–2015–0028) and available online at www.regulations.gov.

deterioration permitting requirements as discussed in section III of this preamble. The EPA has made, and will continue to make, these documents generally available electronically through www.regulations.com and/or in hard copy at the appropriate EPA office (see the **ADDRESSES** section of this preamble for more information).

V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under the CAA, the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the CAA and applicable Federal regulations. 42 U.S.C. 7410(k); 40 CFR 52.02(a). Thus, in reviewing SIP submissions, EPA's role is to approve state choices, provided that they meet the criteria of the CAA. Accordingly, this action merely approves state law as meeting Federal requirements and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. For that reason, this proposed action:

- Is not a "significant regulatory action" subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993);

- Does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*);

- Is certified as not having a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*);

- Does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-4);

- Does not have Federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);

- Is not an economically significant regulatory action based on health or safety risks subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997);

- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001);

- Is not subject to requirements of Section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the CAA; and

- Does not provide EPA with the discretionary authority to address, as

appropriate, disproportionate human health or environmental effects, using practicable and legally permissible methods, under Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

In addition, this proposed rule, relating to West Virginia's PSD program, does not have tribal implications as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000), because the SIP is not approved to apply in Indian country located in the state, and EPA notes that it will not impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Incorporation by reference, Carbon monoxide, Intergovernmental relations, Lead, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Particulate matter, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulfur oxides, Volatile organic compounds.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: March 12, 2015.

William C. Early,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region III.

[FR Doc. 2015-07222 Filed 3-27-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P