

the ASM5015 exhaust emission test to be removed. EPA received a request for the removal of all references to the evaporative pressure and purge test, while retaining the evaporative fuel cap leak test.

On May 28, 2003, EPA received a request from New Jersey to allow the substitution of an on-road inspection certification for the biennial inspection. The on-road inspection must comply with the testing that is required for the motor vehicle as part of a regular inspection, and must be within the two-month period prior to its regularly scheduled biennial inspection.

This letter also requested the exemption of OBD-eligible gasoline-fueled and bi-fueled school buses from I/M enhanced inspection purposes. All school buses must meet the Department emission standards and be inspected biannually using a 2,500 RPM test, not with an ASM5015 test, (*see* 34 N.J.R. 829(a) February 19, 2002). The school buses will be inspected under the MVC School Bus Inspection Unit regulation in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:3B–18 *et seq.* The State also requested that leasing companies and out-of-state dealerships be allowed to issue temporary inspection decals, which would permit the motorist to present the vehicle at the exit of any centralized inspection facility and be issued a valid inspection decal.

In addition to restructuring the rule, amendments were made to: clarify the meaning of vehicles primarily operated in the area; clarify existing definitions and include new definitions; clarify fleet vehicle testing requirements, set fee payment methods, station testing procedures, emission test standards and waiver requirements; clarify the vehicle test report requirement for vehicles that fail the OBD test, reinspection, the clean screening test report requirements and the fleet vehicle reporting requirements; clarify the issuance of inspection certificates of approval or rejection; clarify the test methods for the OBD and the visual test methods, and clarify licensing of inspection agents and definitions of fraud. All of the factors of New Jersey's I/M program detailed above are approvable by the EPA.

3. Summary of Conclusions and Proposed Action

EPA's review of the materials submitted indicates that New Jersey has revised the I/M program in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA), and all of EPA's technical requirements for an approvable OBD program. The CAA gives States the discretion in program planning to implement programs of the State's

choosing as long as necessary emission reductions are met. EPA is approving the proposed actions and revisions in addition to adding the OBD program described earlier, because New Jersey has successfully demonstrated through performance standard modeling that these modifications would not adversely affect emission reductions that the State is counting on from the program. The performance standard modeling, which reflects the State's enhanced I/M program as it is currently implemented, shows that the State's program meets the low enhanced performance standard. EPA's authority to approve New Jersey's enhanced I/M program is set forth at section 110 and 182 of the CAA.

4. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under Executive Order 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993), this proposed action is not a "significant regulatory action" and therefore is not subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget. For this reason, this action is also not subject to Executive Order 13211, "Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use" (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001). This proposed action merely proposes to approve state law as meeting Federal requirements and imposes no additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. Accordingly, the Administrator certifies that this proposed rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*). Because this rule proposes to approve pre-existing requirements under state law and does not impose any additional enforceable duty beyond that required by state law, it does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–4).

This proposed rule also does not have tribal implications because it will not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000). This action also does not have Federalism implications because it does not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various

levels of government, as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999). This action merely proposes to approve a state rule implementing a Federal standard, and does not alter the relationship or the distribution of power and responsibilities established in the Clean Air Act. This proposed rule also is not subject to Executive Order 13045 "Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks" (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997), because it is not economically significant.

In reviewing SIP submissions, EPA's role is to approve state choices, provided that they meet the criteria of the Clean Air Act. In this context, in the absence of a prior existing requirement for the State to use voluntary consensus standards (VCS), EPA has no authority to disapprove a SIP submission for failure to use VCS. It would thus be inconsistent with applicable law for EPA, when it reviews a SIP submission, to use VCS in place of a SIP submission that otherwise satisfies the provisions of the Clean Air Act. Thus, the requirements of section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) do not apply. This proposed rule does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, 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: November 25, 2003.

Jane M. Kenny,

Regional Administrator, Region 2.

[FR Doc. 03–30887 Filed 12–12–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Parts 52 and 81

[NV 050–0073B; FRL–7595–4]

Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Nevada; Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Lake Tahoe Nevada Area

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: On October 27, 2003, the State of Nevada requested EPA to redesignate the Lake Tahoe Nevada "not classified" carbon monoxide (CO) nonattainment area to attainment for the CO National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and submitted a CO maintenance plan for the area as a revision to the Nevada State Implementation Plan (SIP). In this action, EPA is proposing to approve the redesignation request and the maintenance plan. EPA is also proposing to find that the maintenance plan is adequate for conformity purposes under the limited maintenance plan policy. In the "Rules and Regulations" section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving the State's redesignation request and SIP revision, involving the maintenance plan, as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views the redesignation and SIP revision as noncontroversial and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to this proposed rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this rule. If EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time. **DATES:** Comments on this proposed rule must be received in writing by January 14, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Please address your comments to Eleanor Kaplan, Air Planning Office (AIR-2), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901 or e-mail to kaplan.eleanor@epa.gov, or submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov>. A copy of the State's submittal is available for public inspection during normal business hours at EPA's Region IX office. Please contact Eleanor Kaplan if you wish to schedule a visit. A copy of the submittal is also available at the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Environmental Protection, 333 West Nye Lane, Carson City, Nevada 89706.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eleanor Kaplan, EPA Region IX at (415) 947-4147 or kaplan.eleanor@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For further information see the direct final

rule, of the same day, published in the "Rules and Regulations" section of this **Federal Register**.

Dated: November 20, 2003.

Laura Yoshii,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region IX.

[FR Doc. 03-30370 Filed 12-12-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 54

[CC Docket No. 96-45; FCC 03-249]

Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Commission seeks comment to further develop the record on specific issues that relate to the rate review and expanded State certification process recommended by the Joint Board. The Commission also seeks comment on a proposal to further encourage States to preserve and advance universal service by making available additional targeted Federal support for high-cost wire centers in states that implement explicit universal service mechanisms.

DATES: Comments are due on or before January 14, 2004. Reply comments are due on or before February 13, 2004. Written comments on the proposed information collection(s) must be submitted by the public, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and other interested parties on or before February 13, 2004.

ADDRESSES: All filings must be sent to the Commission's Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the Secretary, a copy of any Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments on the information collection(s) contained herein should be submitted to Judith B. Herman, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-C804, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554, or via the Internet to Judith-B.Herman@fcc.gov, and to Kim A. Johnson, OMB Desk Officer, Room 10236 NEOB, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, or via the Internet to

Kim_A.Johnson@omb.eop.gov or by fax to 202-395-5167. Parties should also send three paper copies of their filings to Sheryl Todd, Telecommunications

Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth Street, SW., Room 5-B540, Washington, DC 20554. See

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for further filing instructions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Schneider, Attorney, Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, (202) 418-7400. For additional information concerning the information collection(s) contained in this document, contact Judith B. Herman at 202-418-0214, or via the Internet at Judith-B.Herman@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45 released on October 27, 2003. A companion Order on Remand and Memorandum Opinion and Order was also released in CC Docket No. 96-45 on October 27, 2003. The full text of this document is available for public inspection during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Center, Room CY-A257, 445 Twelfth Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554 or at www.fcc.gov/wcb/universal_service/highcost.html.

This Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM) contains proposed information collection(s) subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). It has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review under the PRA. OMB, the general public, and other Federal agencies are invited to comment on the proposed information collections contained in this proceeding.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The FNPRM contained proposed information collections. The Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, invites the general public and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to comment on the information collection(s) contained in this FNPRM, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Public and agency comments on the proposed information collections discussed in this Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking are due on or before February 13, 2004. PRA comments should address: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimates; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and