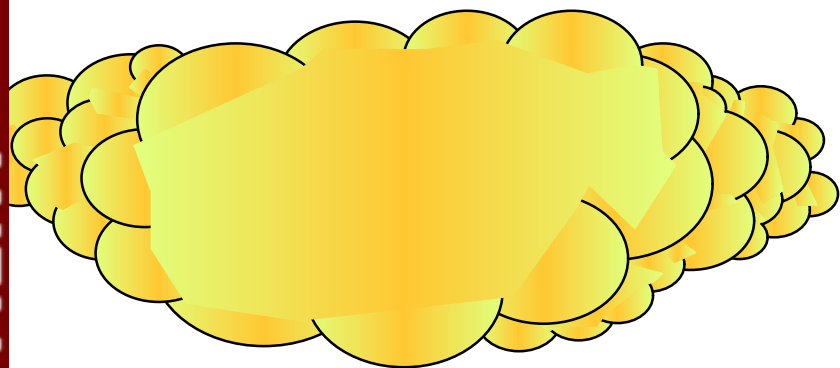


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UPDATE ON THE REGIONAL HAZE RULE

September 23, 1998

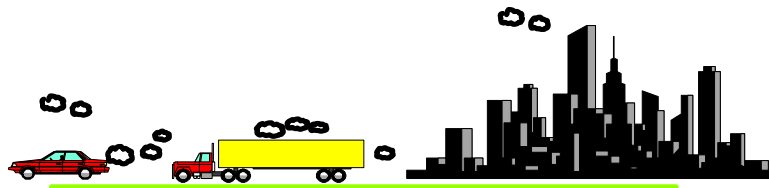


SCHEDULE



- **Proposed Regional Haze rule on 7/31/97, comment period closed 12/5/97**
- **Issued Notice of Availability of Additional Information in Federal Register on 9/3/98**
 - **Comments due 10/5/98**





BACKGROUND... TEA-21

- **Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)**
 - Signed into law on 6/9/98
 - Modifies timing requirements for designations and SIPs

- **Dates for designating PM-2.5 attainment & nonattainment areas**
 - PM-2.5 monitors to be deployed by end of 1999
 - After 3 years of data are received, State is required to recommend designation status within 1 year
 - EPA designates area within 1 year, no later than Dec. 2005

BACKGROUND ...WGA LETTER

- **Western Governors Association 6/29/98 letter (signed by Governor Leavitt) to Carol Browner**
 - **Developed by stakeholder group (States, industry, environmental groups)**
 - **Recommends to EPA how to translate the 1996 GCVTC recommendations into regulatory provisions under the final rule**
 - **Also includes WRAP "Statement of Principles for EPA's Involvement"**
 - **WGA requested EPA take comment on letter for 30 days**

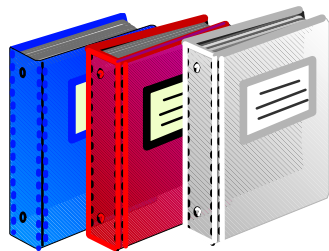




NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY ... SIP SUBMITTAL DATES

- Previous requirement for SIPs due 1 year after promulgation of haze rule is superseded by TEA-21
- Regional haze control strategy SIPs are now due within 1 year of EPA designation for PM-2.5 attainment or unclassifiable areas (2004-2006), or at same time for PM-2.5 nonattainment area control strategy SIPs (2006-2008).
- Discusses that timelines may result in SIPs for parts of a state or region being due at different times when trying to develop a coordinated regional plan.
- Describes optional approach whereby groups of States can commit to regional planning process and submit statewide control strategy SIPs in conjunction with PM-2.5 nonattainment SIPs, and requests comments.





NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY ... WGA Letter

- Website includes WGA letter and sample translation of WGA recommendations into draft regulatory language
- Comments requested on sample translation, WGA suggestions for preamble, and several other issues