

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

State or Tribal Implementation Plan (SIP/TIP) Credits: A Concept Paper

EPA recognizes that transport of pollutants is a significant factor which contributes to nonattainment and regional haze. Further in its Interim Implementation Guidance, EPA recognized that reductions of emissions from sources outside nonattainment boundaries (100 kilometers for volatile organic compounds and 200 kilometers for nitrogen oxides) contribute to attainment. In determining when reductions in emissions of pollutants should be given credit in State or Tribal demonstrations of attainment and/or reasonable progress, four different circumstances may arise, each suggesting the need for somewhat different supporting demonstrations:

(1) except as noted below, where reductions contributing to attainment of standards or to reasonable progress occur beyond the boundaries of a State containing the nonattainment area or affected Class I area, credit would only be granted based on regional planning efforts and regional air quality analyses/demonstrations;

(2) where reductions in emissions contributing to attainment of standards or to reasonable progress are achieved from sources located within the State but outside of a nonattainment area or affected Class I area, these reductions would be creditable, where supported by air quality analyses or demonstrations of attainment;

(3) where reductions in emissions are achieved from sources within a designated nonattainment area, these reductions would be fully creditable when supported by an adequate demonstration of attainment for the nonattainment area; and

(4) for multi-state nonattainment areas, where reductions in emission are achieved from sources throughout the interstate area, these reductions would be fully creditable when supported by an adequate, areawide demonstration of attainment for the interstate area.