

Region 3 Plan Summary
White Top Mountain 8-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan

Title: Maintenance Plan for the White Top Mountain, Virginia 8-Hour Ozone Area

Federal Register Dates: February 26, 2008, 73 FR 10201 (Proposed Rule); April 29, 2008, 73 FR 23103 (Final Rule).

EPA Effective Date: May 29, 2008

State Submittal Date: August 6, 2007

Affected Area: That portion of Smyth County which is above 4,500 feet in elevation. The area lies entirely within the Jefferson National Forest, and is no more than a few square miles in size.

Summary of the Plan:

The White Top Mountain 8-hour ozone nonattainment area has no sources of anthropogenic ozone precursor emissions. This area was originally designated nonattainment under the 1-hour ozone standard on November 6, 1991 (56 FR 56704), and classified as a rural transport area (marginal). On June 15, 2005, all of Smyth County, Virginia was no longer subject to the 1-hour ozone NAAQS and was designated attainment of the 8-hour ozone NAAQS. On August 6, 2007, the EPA the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) requested EPA to approve the section 110(a)(1) 8-hour ozone maintenance plan for White Top Mountain, Smyth County, Virginia as a revision to the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

This current 8-hour designation for White Top Mountain was based on data collected by several programs, namely the Tennessee Valley Authority, EPA's Office of Research and Development (EPA ORD), and the Mountain Acid Deposition Program (MADPro). These monitored ozone data were collected as part of other studies taking place. Virginia, itself, has never operated ozone monitors on this mountain top, nor are any ozone monitors currently in place on White Top Mountain.

Ambient Air Quality Monitoring: Virginia has never operated monitors on White Top Mountain. All of the monitors at this site were part of studies either managed by the Tennessee Valley Authority or EPA's Office of Research and Development, but these monitoring studies have ceased since 1999. Virginia does not have any monitors in place to operate nor does the Commonwealth plan on establishing a monitoring site, because: (1) there are no anthropogenic emissions at this site, (2) the location of this nonattainment area is very remote, and (3) establishing a monitoring site would be cost-prohibitive.

Emissions Inventory: Since White Top Mountain has no anthropogenic emissions, EPA has determined that emissions projections are not necessary.

Control Measures/Regulations Included As Part of the Plan: Since White Top Mountain has no anthropogenic emissions, EPA has determined that a maintenance demonstration is not necessary.

Contingency Measures: EPA has determined that contingency measures are not necessary for areas that have essentially no anthropogenic emissions.

Verification of Continued Attainment: Since emissions inventories and contingency measures are not necessary for areas where there are essentially no anthropogenic emissions, verification of these requirements is also not necessary, and therefore, not included in the maintenance plan.

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