

Technical Support Document:

Chapter 21

Final Round 3 Area Designations for the 2010 1-Hour SO₂ Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Mississippi

Pursuant to section 107(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the EPA, we, or us) must designate areas as either “nonattainment,” “attainment,” or “unclassifiable” for the 2010 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) primary national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) (2010 SO₂ NAAQS). Our Notice of Availability (NOA)¹ and Technical Support Document² for our intended designations for this round of designations which we are required to complete by December 31, 2017, provided background on the relevant CAA definitions and the history of the designations for this NAAQS. Chapter 1 of this TSD for the final designations explains the definitions we are applying in the final designations. The TSD for the intended Round 3 area designations also described Mississippi’s recommended designations, assessed the available relevant monitoring, modeling, and any other information, and provided our intended designations.

For Mississippi, there have been no changes in Mississippi recommended designations since we communicated our intended designations for areas in Mississippi. In addition, neither Mississippi nor any other party submitted additional relevant information since the publication of the NOA. This TSD does not repeat information contained in the TSD for our intended designations. For areas of Mississippi that are part of the Round 3 designations process, we are finalizing the designations described in our 120-day letters and the TSD for the intended Round 3 area designations. All the final designations are listed in Table 1 below.

For the areas in Mississippi that are part of the Round 3 designations process, Table 1 identifies EPA’s final designations and the counties or portions of counties to which they apply. It also lists Mississippi’s current recommendations, which have not been modified since our 120-day letters were sent. The EPA’s final designations for these areas are based on an assessment and characterization of air quality through ambient air quality data, air dispersion modeling, other evidence and supporting information, or a combination of the above.

¹ EPA Responses to Certain State Designation Recommendations for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard: Notification of Availability and Public Comment Period, September 5, 2017 (82 FR 41903)

² Intended Round 3 Area Designations for the 2010 1-Hour SO₂ Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard Technical Support Document, August 2017. <https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations/initial-technical-support-documents-area-designations-round-3>

Table 1. Summary of the EPA’s Final Designations and the Designation Recommendations by Mississippi

| Area/ County | Mississippi’s Recommended Area Definition | Mississippi’s Recommended Designation | The EPA’s Intended Designation | The EPA’s Final Area Definition | The EPA’s Final Designation³ |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| Choctaw County, MS Area | Choctaw County | Unclassifiable/ Attainment | Unclassifiable/ Attainment | Same as State’s | Attainment/ Unclassifiable |
| Jackson County, MS Area | Jackson County | Unclassifiable/ Attainment | Unclassifiable/ Attainment | Same as State’s | Attainment/ Unclassifiable |
| Rest of the State* | Rest of the State | Unclassifiable/ Attainment | Unclassifiable/ Attainment | Same as State’s | Attainment/ Unclassifiable |

*The EPA is designating the remaining undesignated counties (or portions of counties) in Mississippi as “attainment/unclassifiable.” These areas that we are designating as attainment/unclassifiable (those to which this row of this table is applicable) are identified more specifically in Section 5 of Chapter 21 (addressing Mississippi) of the TSD for our intended designations.

³ Refer to Chapter 1 of Technical Support Document: Final Round 3 Area Designations for the 2010 1-Hour SO₂ Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for definitions of the designation categories and the terminology change from Unclassifiable/Attainment to Attainment/Unclassifiable.