



# Ozone Planning in Uintah Basin Ozone Advance

Utah Air Quality Board

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# Early Reductions Will Benefit Uintah Basin

- Improve public health
- More time to solve the problem
- Reduce the design value for the SIP
  - The CAA requires areas to be designated based on the severity of the problem
  - Areas closer to the standard have fewer mandatory requirements, but must attain the standard more quickly
  - If an area does not attain the standard it is bumped up to the next higher classification level
- Potential Cost Savings for Companies
  - Make reductions over time rather than all at once
  - Ability to include future costs in long-term business plan
  - Greater ability to control emission reduction strategy
- Ability to use voluntary measures and strategies that are more difficult to quantify
- Episodic reductions could be effective

# Ozone Advance

- New EPA program finalized April 4, 2012
- Ozone Advance provides a framework to facilitate early reductions, prior to the development of a SIP
  - Flexible, not a burdensome process
  - Stakeholder involvement
  - Opportunity for voluntary or non-regulatory measures
  - Opportunity to quantify and recognize early reductions from individual companies
- Early EPA Involvement
  - EPA Support for the process
  - Possibility to quantify emission reductions that would be creditable in a future SIP or banked for use in NAA NSR permitting
  - Progress under Ozone Advance may be a factor in EPA's decision regarding the timing of redesignation
- No guarantees or regulatory relief
- There are multiple jurisdictions in the Uintah Basin and this can present challenges, but a non-regulatory, collaborative process provides an opportunity for each jurisdiction to share ideas and to make progress towards reducing emissions

# Ozone Advance

- How does the program work?
  - Brief sign-up letter to apply for the program
    - EPA encourages coordination with local government and tribes in the area
  - Develop a stakeholder process
  - One year later the area should submit a “Path Forward” letter to fully describe the measures and programs to be implemented
  - Measures and programs implemented
  - At least once a year submit a brief summary of progress
- If the area is designated as a marginal ozone NAA area the program can continue
- If the area is designated as a moderate or above ozone NAA the area is no longer eligible for ozone advance, but the program may provide “SIP credit” for early reductions

# Potential Areas of Focus

- On-going technical work to improve our understanding of the formation of winter-time ozone in the Basin and the precursors that should be the focus of future emission reductions
- Develop early reduction tracking system
  - Credit for early reductions
  - Challenge of multiple jurisdictions
  - How to quantify reductions?
- Clean diesel projects
- Develop framework to ensure that new development in the area is the best available technology and does not make the problem worse
  - Coordinate with NEPA process
  - Complementary policies across jurisdictions for equipment standards, etc.
- Develop 2011 inventory that may be the starting point for a future SIP inventory
  - Define methodology for quantifying emissions that will be used to measure early reductions
  - Identify areas where inventory improvements are needed
- Public Education/Notification regarding air quality conditions and health effects