

WESTAR-WRAP Planning Committee

Notes August 6, 2026

Attendance: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Clark County, Albuquerque, NPS

1. Discussion Items

a. 2024 PM_{2.5} Infrastructure SIP (I-SIP) Round Table Discussion (All)

Committee members exchanged updates on how different EPA regions are advising states to handle the interstate transport section of their PM_{2.5} ISIPs ahead of the February 2027 deadline:

- **Region 9 (Nevada & California):** Nevada reported that Region 9 recommended pausing work on the interstate transport section until the EPA issues final designations and completes its own modeling. California noted they also met with the Region 9 planning group. While no dedicated ISIP contact has been assigned yet, they were directed to contact Rhonda Key, the geographical strategies and modeling section manager.
- **Region 8 (Colorado):** Colorado reported that Region 8 suggested reviewing the most recent three-year design values for neighboring states. Because Colorado has minimal impact on its neighbors, they feel confident moving forward with this approach, which is similar to what they did when the PM_{2.5} standard was revised in 2012. Colorado is working on both the PM_{2.5} and SO₂ ISIP elements simultaneously.
- **Region 10 (Idaho & Washington):** Idaho and Washington reported that Region 10 advised them to follow their previous approach (such as the 2012 submittal) and confirmed that no modeling was currently planned.

Mary Uhl noted that the EPA previously believed PM_{2.5} non-attainment was driven primarily by localized emissions rather than transport, meaning the EPA did not plan to perform transport modeling.

b. Unified Platform Updates (Jay)

Unified Platform: States are increasingly concerned about bugs and platform discrepancies, particularly regarding emissions inventories. The EPA is establishing quarterly calls to address these concerns, with the first scheduled for **August 19, 2026**.

Unified Agenda Highlights:

- **PM_{2.5} Standard:** The initial area designations for the annual PM 2.5 standard are in the final rule stage, with a court-ordered deadline for publication by February 7, 2027. Consequently, 120-day letters are anticipated to arrive within the coming weeks or by early September. Meanwhile, the long-term agenda includes a "revisitation" of the 2024 PM_{2.5} reconsideration.
- **Regional Haze:** Currently listed in the pre-rule stage with no drafts circulating outside of EPA headquarters.
- **Other Actions:** Other short-term actions include vehicle emissions rules, carbon pollution standards repeal (currently under OMB review), residential wood heater

NSPS (proposal due December 2026), and revisions to the exceptional events rule to ease the burden on states.

c. Federal updates (Zac)

- i. Minor New Source Review Program Air Permitting Public Participation Requirements for State Implementation Plans

(<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/07/07/2026-13667/minor-new-source-review-program-air-permitting-public-participation-requirements-for-state>)

Zac Dorn highlighted an EPA proposal closing for comment on August 21st regarding public participation requirements for minor NSR permits. The proposal seeks to redefine the phrase "as necessary" in Clean Air Act Section 110(a)(2)(C) to exclude public participation for minor permits and modifications.

State Impact: For states like Arizona, which cannot pass regulations more stringent than federal requirements, this federal rollback introduces complex legal questions regarding whether state laws can legally continue requiring public participation.

- ii. On 7/17/26, the U.S. District Court for Northern California ordered EPA to finalize all area designations under the 2024 PM_{2.5} NAAQS by Feb. 6, 2027. *Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments, et al. v. Zeldin* and *State of California, et al. v. Zeldin* (Case No. 4:26-cv-03500-HSG). https://www.4cleanair.org/wp-content/uploads/epa2026_1207.pdf

2. Actions/Updates

- a. Any new actions for discussion or awareness?

- i. [ERG Free Data Center Air Quality Compliance Webinar Series](#) (ongoing)

Check your spam filters!

- ii. September 9-11, 2026 - [AAPCA 2026 Fall Business Meeting](#)

- iii. [CMAS](#), October 19-21, Raleigh, NC

- iv. [Residential Wood Heating Conference](#), October 20-21, Portland, OR

- v. WESTAR-WRAP Fall Business Meeting, October 28-29, Boise, ID

The meeting will feature a major session on data center permitting led by national expert Gary McCutcheon, which will include participation from the southeastern states. Register using this link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/q13yZZRT2f>

- vi. November 10-13, 2026 - Air & Waste Management Association

[Atmospheric Optics: Aerosols, Visibility, and the Radiative Balance](#)

Zac Dorn announced he will be out of the office on paternity leave for 12 weeks starting at the end of August, directing correspondence to Morgan Frank and Jay Baker.

Idaho Inquiry: Aislinn Johns asked if other states are having their annual Incorporation by Reference (IBR) SIPs held up by the EPA due to the PM_{2.5} NAAQS. Since few on the call had heard of this occurring, Jay Baker offered to distribute the question to the broader 100+ member WESTAR mailing list.