

activities offering a sequence of courses that—

(a) Provides individuals with coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in current or emerging professions;

(b) Provides technical skill proficiency, an industry-recognized credential, a certificate, or an associate degree; and

(c) Includes competency-based applied learning that contributes to the academic knowledge, higher-order reasoning and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, technical and occupation-specific skills, and knowledge of all aspects of an industry, including entrepreneurship, of an individual. Projects may include prerequisite courses (other than remedial courses) that meet the definitional requirements of section 3(5)(A) of the Act (20 U.S.C. 2302(5)(A)).

On June 14, 2013, we published in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 35877) a notice inviting applications for NHCTEP grants (2013 NIA). Although the Secretary invited applications with a proposed project period of five years in previous NHCTEP competitions, in 2013, in anticipation of congressional reauthorization of the Act, the Department invited applications with proposed project periods of 24 months. The project periods for the NHCTEP projects funded under the 2013 NIA are scheduled to end in 2015. Because there is the potential for changes in the authorizing legislation for NHCTEP beyond 2015, we do not believe it would be in the public interest to hold a new NHCTEP competition in FY 2015 for projects that may then operate for just one year or to announce a competition under which eligible entities would be expected to proceed through the application preparation and submission process while lacking critical information about the future of the program. Further, we do not think that it would be in the public interest to have a lapse in the services currently provided by the NHCTEP grantees.

For these reasons, the Secretary proposes to waive the requirements of 34 CFR 75.261(a) and (c)(2) that generally prohibit project period extensions involving the obligation of additional Federal funds. The Secretary also proposes to extend the NHCTEP project period for up to 24 months. The proposed waiver and extension would allow the current NHCTEP grantees to request and continue to receive Federal funding annually for project periods

through FY 2016 and possibly through FY 2017. We intend to fund the extended project period by using funds appropriated for FY 2015 or FY 2016, depending on whether the grants are extended for one or two years.

If the waiver of the requirements of 34 CFR 75.261(a) and (c)(2) that we propose in this notice is announced by a notice of final waiver and extension of the project period published in the **Federal Register**: (1) The requirements applicable to continuation awards for current NHCTEP grantees set forth in the 2013 NIA and the requirements in 34 CFR 75.253 would apply to any continuation awards sought by current NHCTEP grantees; (2) we will make decisions regarding annual continuation awards based on grantee program narratives, budgets and budget narratives, and performance reports and the requirements in 34 CFR 75.253; and (3) we will not announce a new competition or make new awards in FY 2015.

The proposed waiver and project period extension would not exempt the current NHCTEP grantees from the appropriation account closing provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1552(a), nor would they extend the availability of funds previously awarded to current NHCTEP grantees. As a result of 31 U.S.C. 1552(a), appropriations available for a limited period may be used for payment of valid obligations for only five years after the expiration of their period of availability for Federal obligation. After that time, the unexpended balance of those funds is canceled and returned to the U.S. Department of the Treasury and is unavailable for restoration for any purpose (31 U.S.C. 1552(b)).

#### Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

The Secretary certifies that the proposed waiver and extension and the activities required to support additional years of funding would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The small entities that would be affected by this proposed waiver and extension are the seven currently funded NHCTEP grantees and any other potential applicants.

The Secretary certifies that the proposed waiver and extension would not have a significant economic impact on these entities because the extension of an existing project imposes minimal compliance costs, and the activities required to support the additional years of funding would not impose additional regulatory burdens or require unnecessary Federal supervision.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This notice of proposed waiver and extension does not contain any information collection requirements.

#### Intergovernmental Review

The NHCTEP is not subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

**Accessible Format:** Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

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Dated: February 4, 2015.

**Johan E. Uvin,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Career, Technical, and Adult Education.*

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

##### 40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0731; FRL-9921-36-Region 9]

#### Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Placer County Air Pollution Control District, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve revisions to the Placer County Air Pollution Control District (PCAPCD) and

the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD) portions of the California State Implementation Plan (SIP). These revisions concern volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from gasoline transfer into stationary storage containers, and gasoline transfer into vehicle fuel tanks. We are proposing to approve local rules to regulate these emission sources under the Clean Air Act (CAA or the Act).

**DATES:** Any comments on this proposal must arrive by March 12, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments, identified by docket number EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0731 by one of the following methods:

1. *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Follow the on-line instructions.

2. *Email:* [steckel.andrew@epa.gov](mailto:steckel.andrew@epa.gov).

3. *Mail or deliver:* Andrew Steckel (Air-4), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901.

*Instructions:* All comments will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Information that you consider CBI or otherwise protected should be clearly identified as such and should not be submitted through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or email. [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) is an "anonymous access" system, and EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send email directly to EPA, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the public comment. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses.

*Docket:* Generally, documents in the docket for this action are available electronically at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and in hard copy at EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, California 94105-3901. While all documents in the docket are listed at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), some information may be publicly available only at the hard copy location (e.g., copyrighted material, large maps), and some may not be publicly available in either location (e.g., CBI). To inspect the hard copy

materials, please schedule an appointment during normal business hours with the contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** James Shears, EPA Region IX, (213) 244-1810, [shears.james@epa.gov](mailto:shears.james@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This proposal addresses the following local rules: PCAPCD Rule 213, Gasoline Transfer Into Stationary Storage Containers, PCAPCD Rule 214, Transfer of Gasoline Into Vehicle Fuel Tanks, SJVUAPCD Rule 4621, Gasoline Transfer Into Stationary Storage Containers, Delivery Vessels, and Bulk Plants, and SJVUAPCD Rule 4622, Gasoline Transfer Into Motor Vehicle Fuel Tanks. In the Rules and Regulations section of this **Federal Register**, we are approving these local rules in a direct final action without prior proposal because we believe these SIP revisions are not controversial. If we receive adverse comments, however, we will publish a timely withdrawal of the direct final rule and address the comments in subsequent action based on this proposed rule. Please note that if we receive adverse comment on an amendment, paragraph, or section of this rule and if that provision may be severed from the remainder of the rule, we may adopt as final those provisions of the rule that are not the subject of an adverse comment.

We do not plan to open a second comment period, so anyone interested in commenting should do so at this time. If we do not receive adverse comments, no further activity is planned. For further information, please see the direct final action.

Dated: December 12, 2014.

**Jared Blumenfeld,**

*Regional Administrator, Region IX.*

[FR Doc. 2015-02618 Filed 2-9-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### 40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R06-OAR-2011-0938; FRL-9922-72-Region 6]

### Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Transportation Conformity and Conformity of General Federal Actions

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve

State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions submitted by the State of New Mexico on October 28, 2011, November 1, 2013, and August 8, 2014 on behalf of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). These revisions amend the State transportation conformity provisions and remove the State general conformity provisions from the SIP as allowed by the 2005 amendments to the Clean Air Act (Act or CAA). These revisions also establish transportation conformity criteria and procedures related to interagency consultation and enforceability of certain transportation-related control measures and mitigation measures. If finalized, upon the effective date of this final action, the EPA federal rules will govern conformity of transportation Federal actions and general Federal actions within the State of New Mexico. This action is being taken in accordance with sections 110 and 176 of the Act.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before March 12, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to Mr. Guy Donaldson, Chief, Air Planning Section (6PD-L), Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733. Comments may also be submitted electronically or through hand delivery/courier by following the detailed instructions in the **ADDRESSES** section of the direct final rule located in the rules section of this **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jeffrey Riley, (214) 665-8542, [riley.jeffrey@epa.gov](mailto:riley.jeffrey@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In the final rules section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving the State's SIP submittal as a direct rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as noncontroversial submittal and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no relevant adverse comments are received in response to this action no further activity is contemplated. If EPA receives relevant adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

For additional information, see the direct final rule which is located in the rules section of this **Federal Register**.