

Proposed Ozone Standards & Implications for Central Texas

City of Austin Environmental Board Meeting

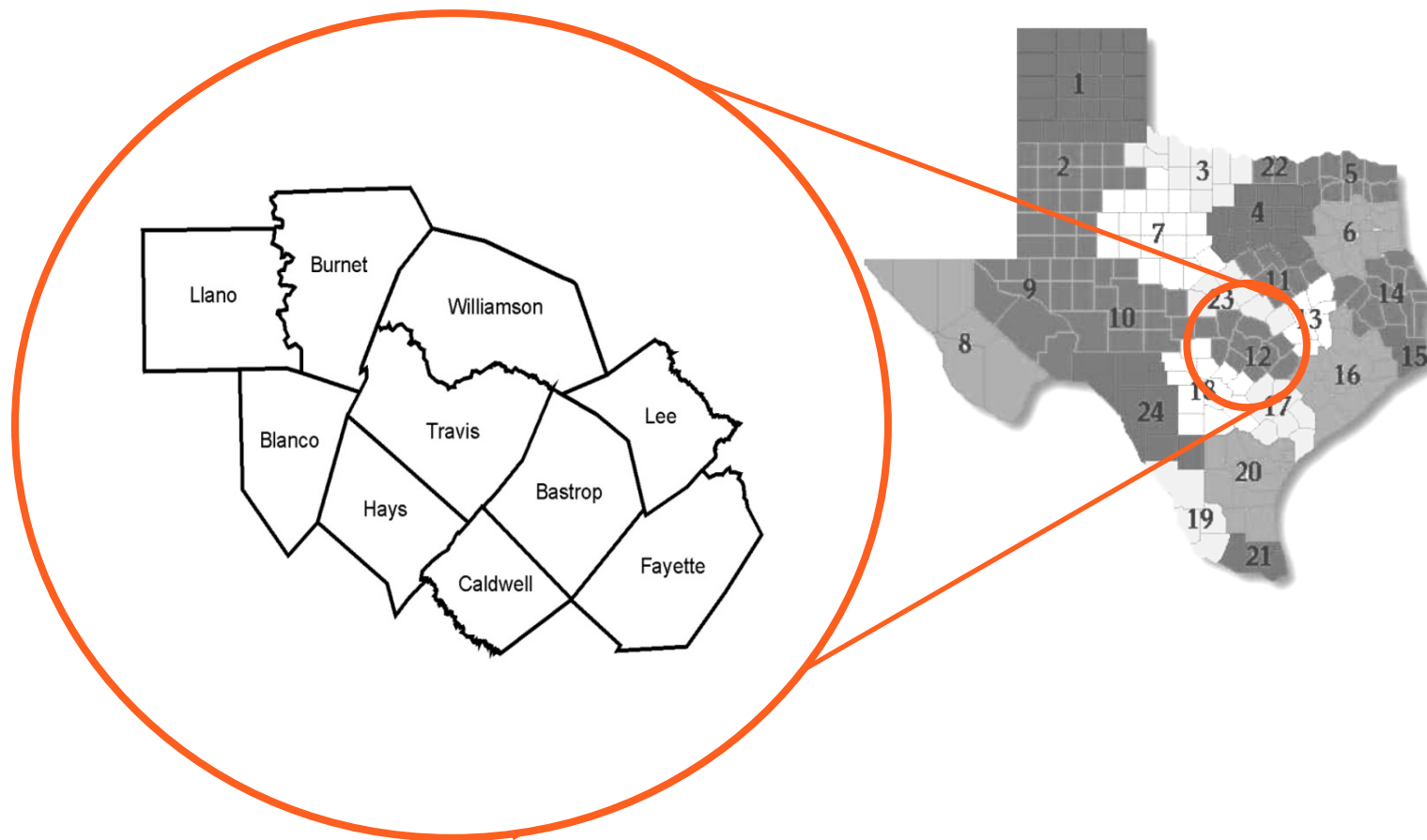
March 4, 2015

CAPCOG – Regional Planning Commission in Statute; More often called a COG.



- Emergency Communications 9-1-1
- Area Agency on Aging
- Homeland Security Planning & Training
- Regional Law Enforcement Academy
- Air Quality Planning
- Economic Development Analysis & Tech Assist
- Solid Waste Planning

Ten-County service area; State of Texas planning region 12





CAPCOG Executive Committee

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City of Buda

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Joe Don Dockery
Burnet County

Commissioner
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Williamson County

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Ken Schawe
Caldwell County

Judge
Brett Bray
Blanco County

Judge
Sarah Eckhardt
Travis County

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City of Leander

Council Member
Ellen Troxclair
City of Austin

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Judge
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State Representative
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Gerald Daugherty
Travis County

Judge
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Fayette County

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Maurice Pitts
Lee County

EPA's Proposed Ozone Standards



- Proposed on November 25, 2014
- Lower the level from 75 parts per billion (ppb) to a range of 65-70 ppb
- Central Texas Levels 2012-2014: 69 ppb
- Intended to increase protections for public health and vegetation
- Comments due March 17, 2015

Review of Ozone – What Is It?



Impacts of Ozone Exposure

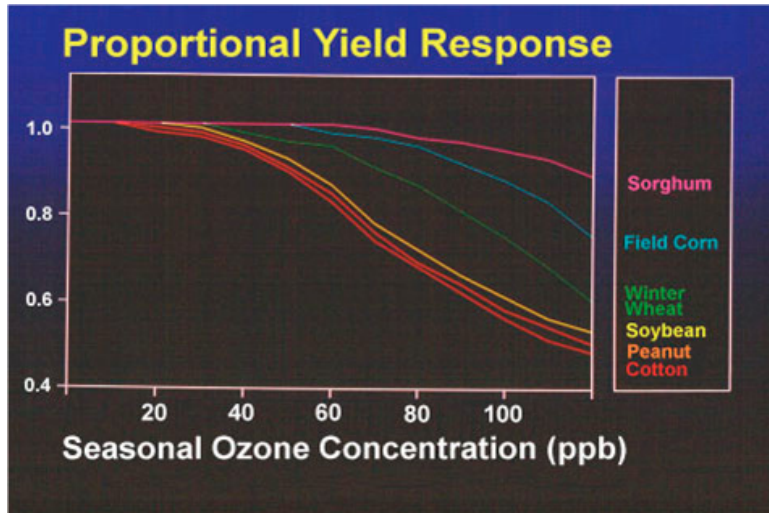
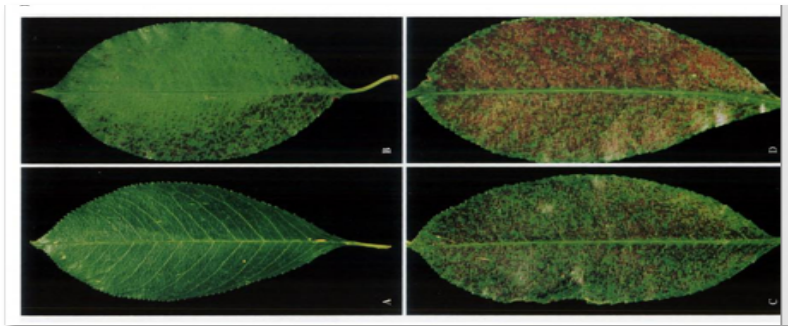
Respiratory Effects and Premature Death in Humans



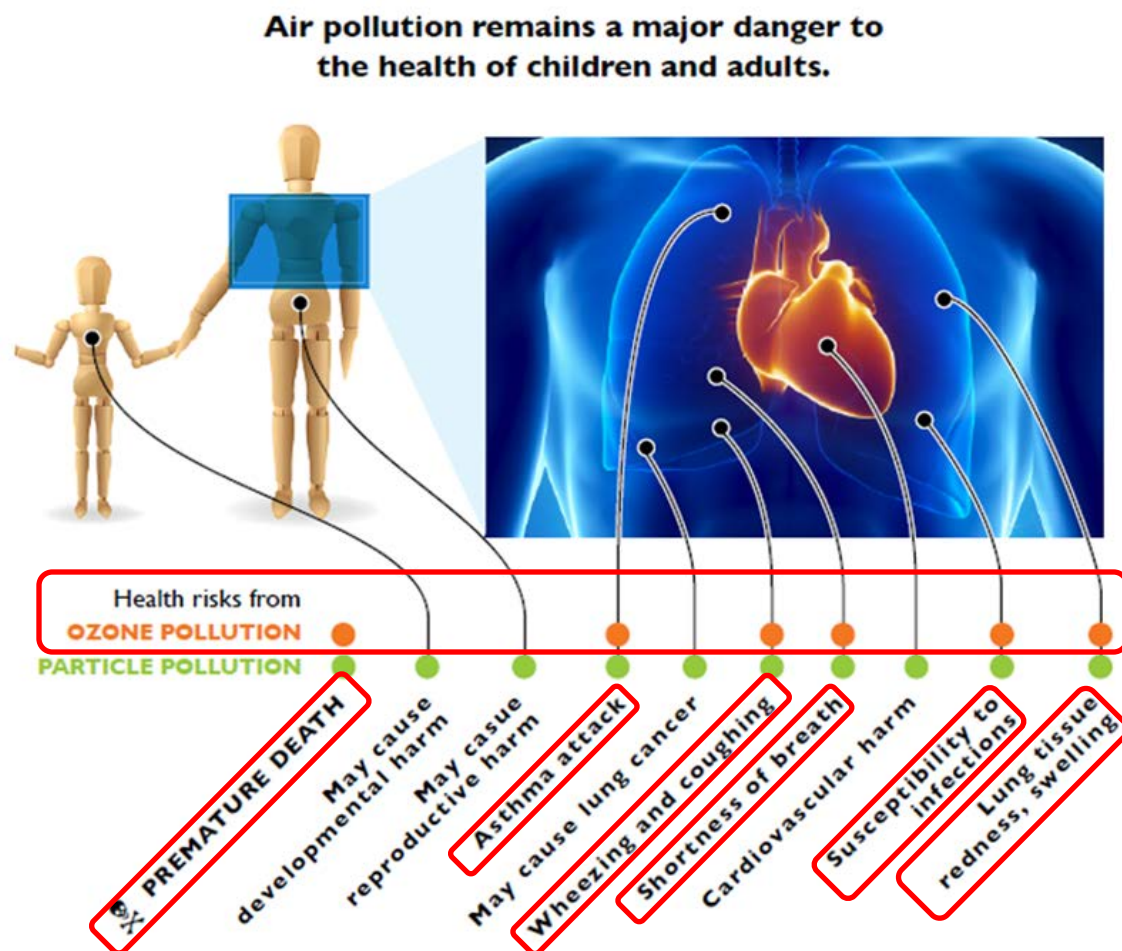
# of Deaths in 2007 Associated with Peak Summertime Ozone Levels			
County	Smith et. al Study	Zanobetti Study	Jerrett et. al Study
Bastrop	2-4	2-4	4-8
Caldwell	1-2	1-2	4-8
Hays	2-4	2-4	8-16
Travis	16-32	16-32	>64
Williamson	8-16	8-16	16-32

Source: Health and Risk Exposure Assessment, Figures 8-2, 8-3, and 8-4
http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/standards/ozone/s_o3_2008_rea.html

Damage to Vegetation And Reduced Crop Yields



Review of Ozone Health Impacts

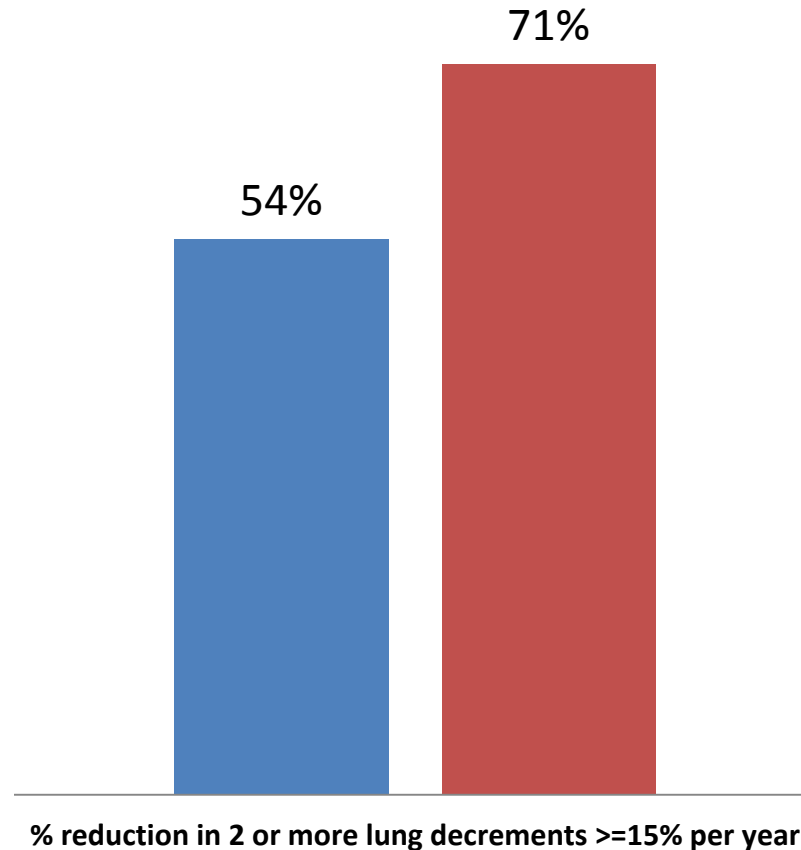


EPA Estimates of Health Benefits of Proposal

Source: EPA. 79 Federal Register 75297 – 75298
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-17/pdf/2014-28674.pdf>



■ 70 ppb Standard ■ 65 ppb standard



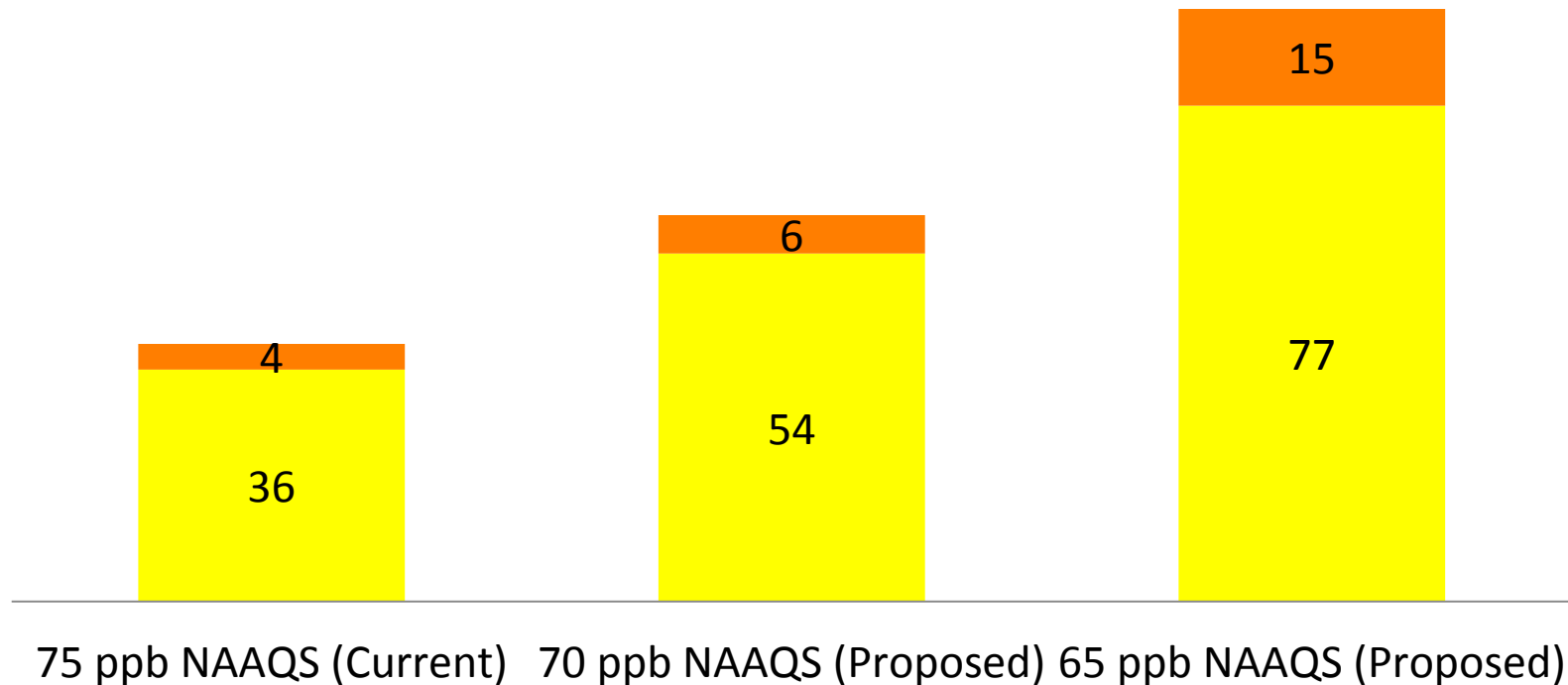
Proposed Changes to the Air Quality Index

Air Quality Index Level for 8-Hour Ozone Averages	Current 75 ppb Standard	Proposed 70 ppb Standard	Proposed 65 ppb Standard
Good	0-59 ppb	0-54 ppb	0-49 ppb
Moderate	60-75 ppb	55-70 ppb	50-65 ppb
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	76-95 ppb	71-85 ppb	66-85 ppb
Unhealthy	96-115 ppb	86-105 ppb	85-105 ppb
Very Unhealthy	116-374 ppb	106-200 ppb	106-200 ppb
Hazardous	375+ ppb	200+ ppb	200+ ppb

2012 Ozone Season Based on AQI

Number of High Days within AQI Ranges

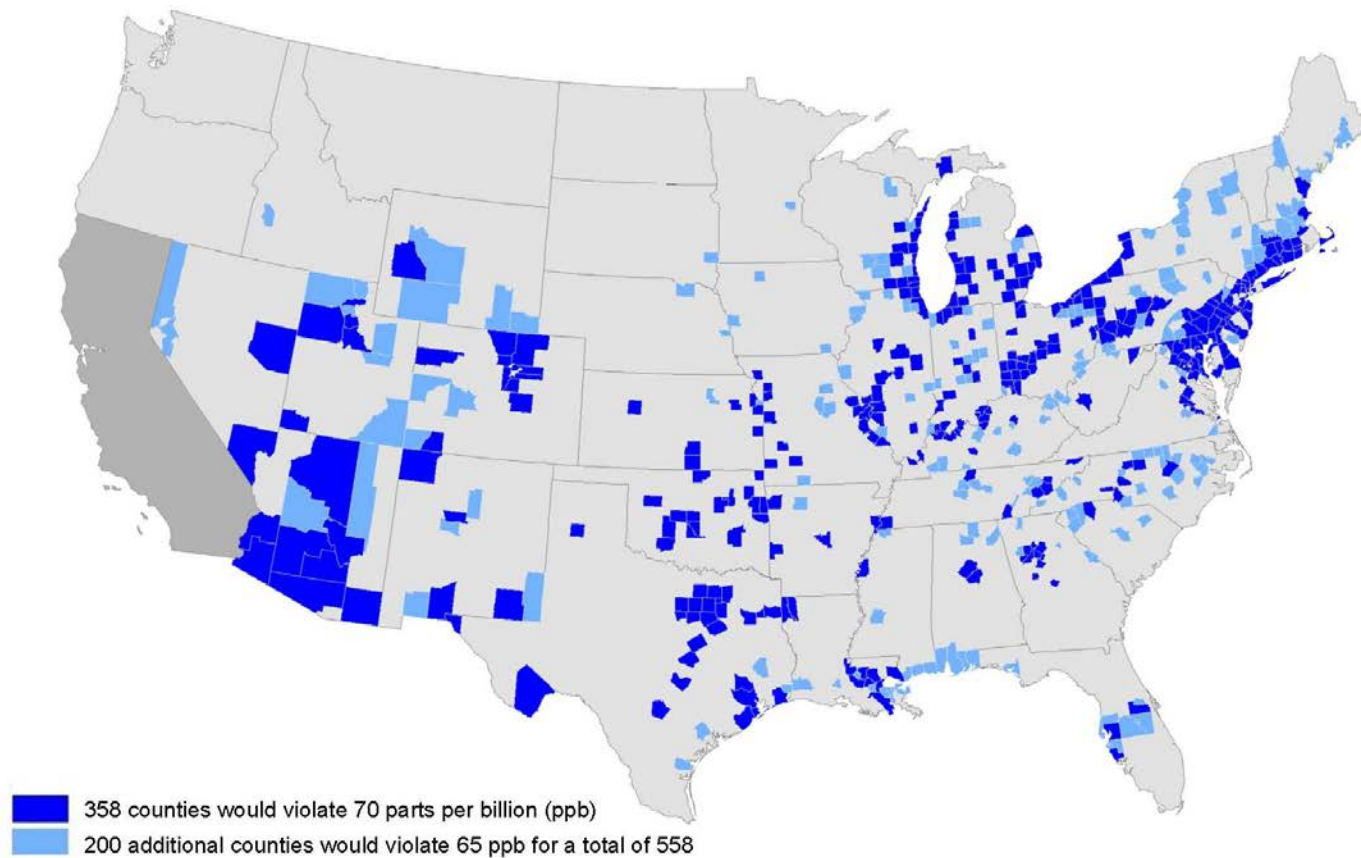
■ Moderate
 ■ Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups



Counties Over the Proposed Standard, 2013



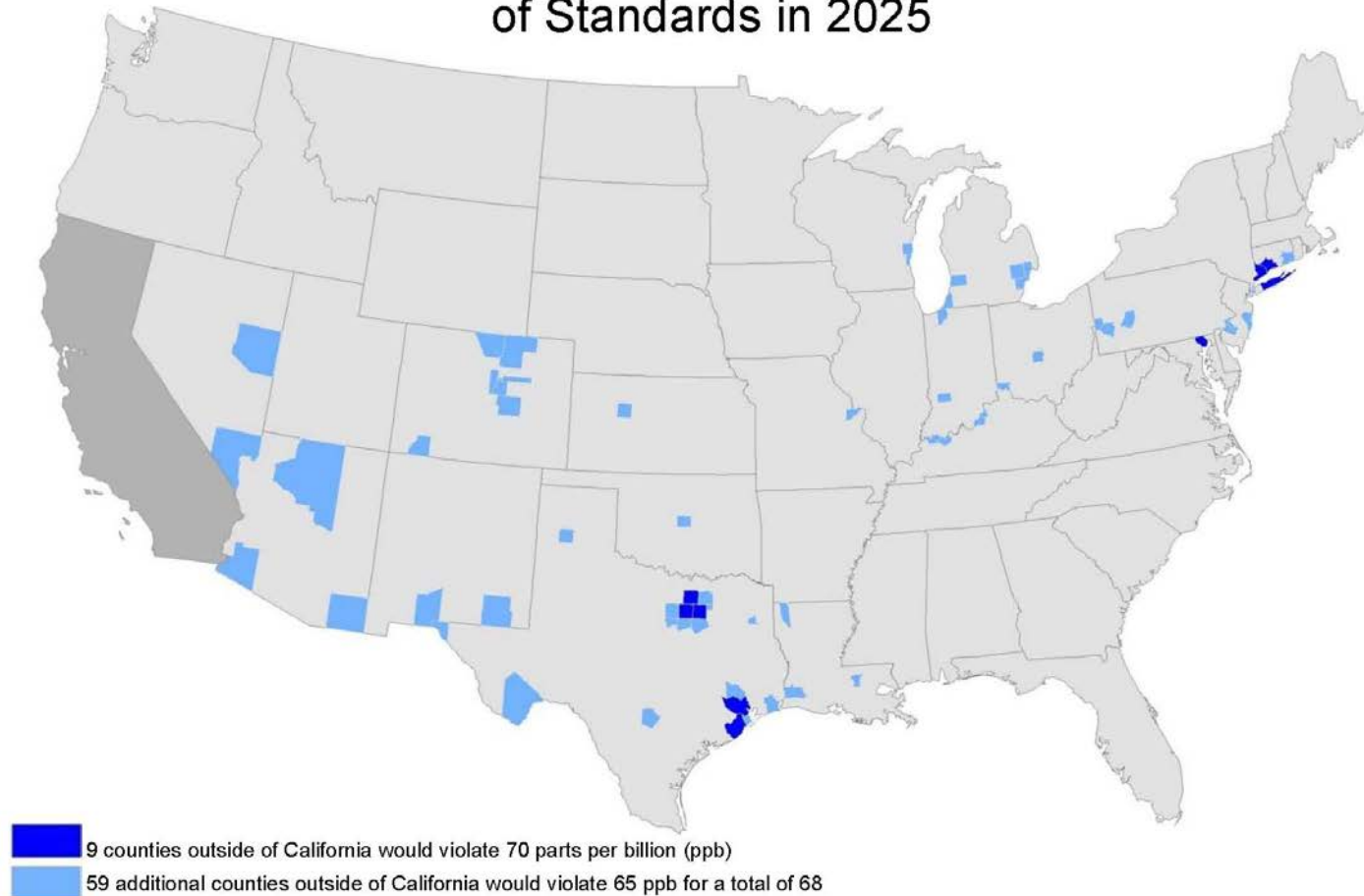
Counties Where Measured Ozone 2011-2013 was Above Proposed Range of Standards (65 – 70 parts per billion)



Counties Over the Proposed Standard, 2025



EPA Projects Most Counties Would Meet the Proposed Range of Standards in 2025



Because several areas in California are not required to meet the existing standard by 2025 and may not be required to meet a revised standard until sometime between 2032 and 2037, EPA analyzed California separately. Details are available in the Regulatory Impact Analysis for this proposal.

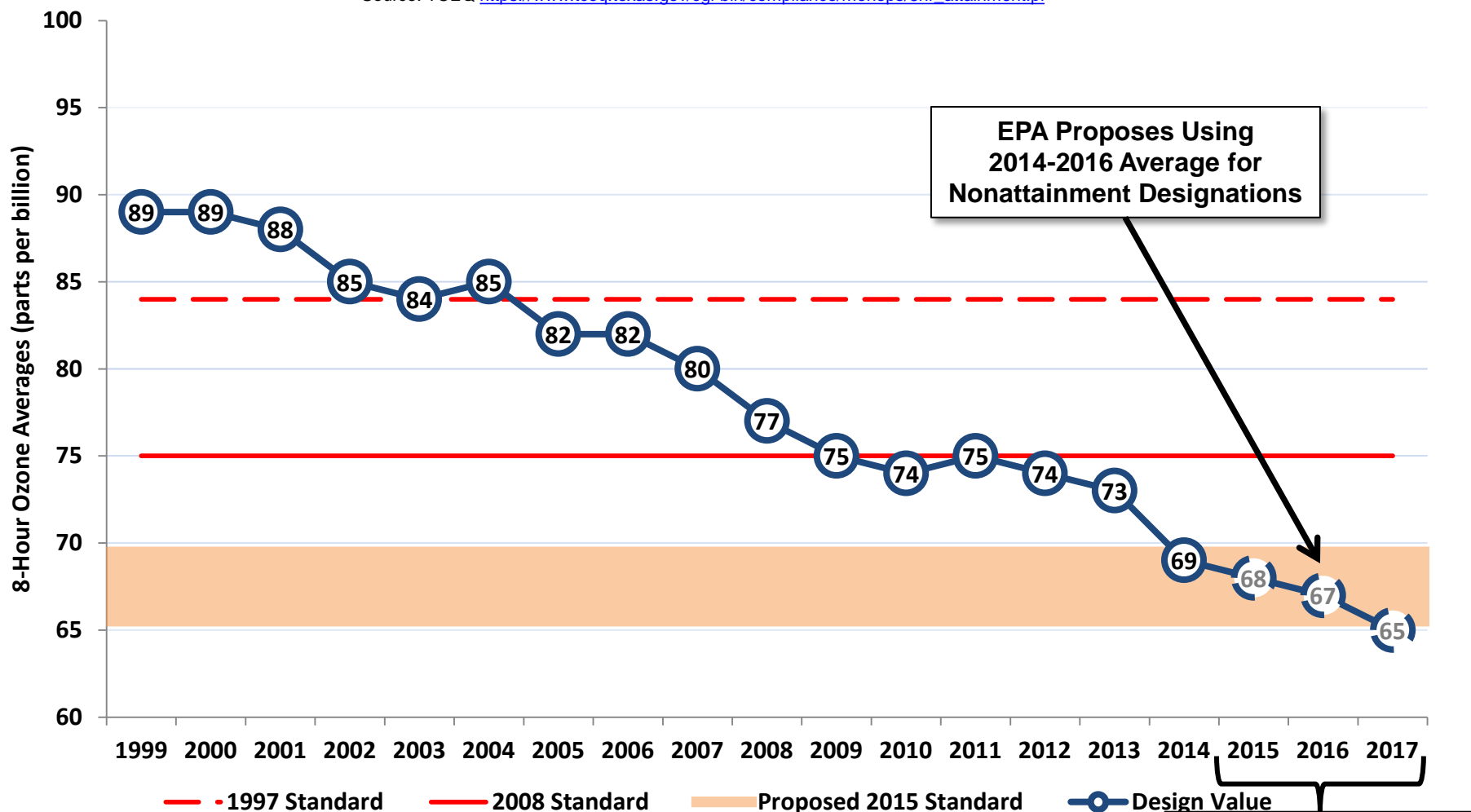
Impacts of O₃ Nonattainment Designation

- More difficult to build new roads
- Industrial growth is limited
- Federal approvals become more difficult
- No “back-sliding”



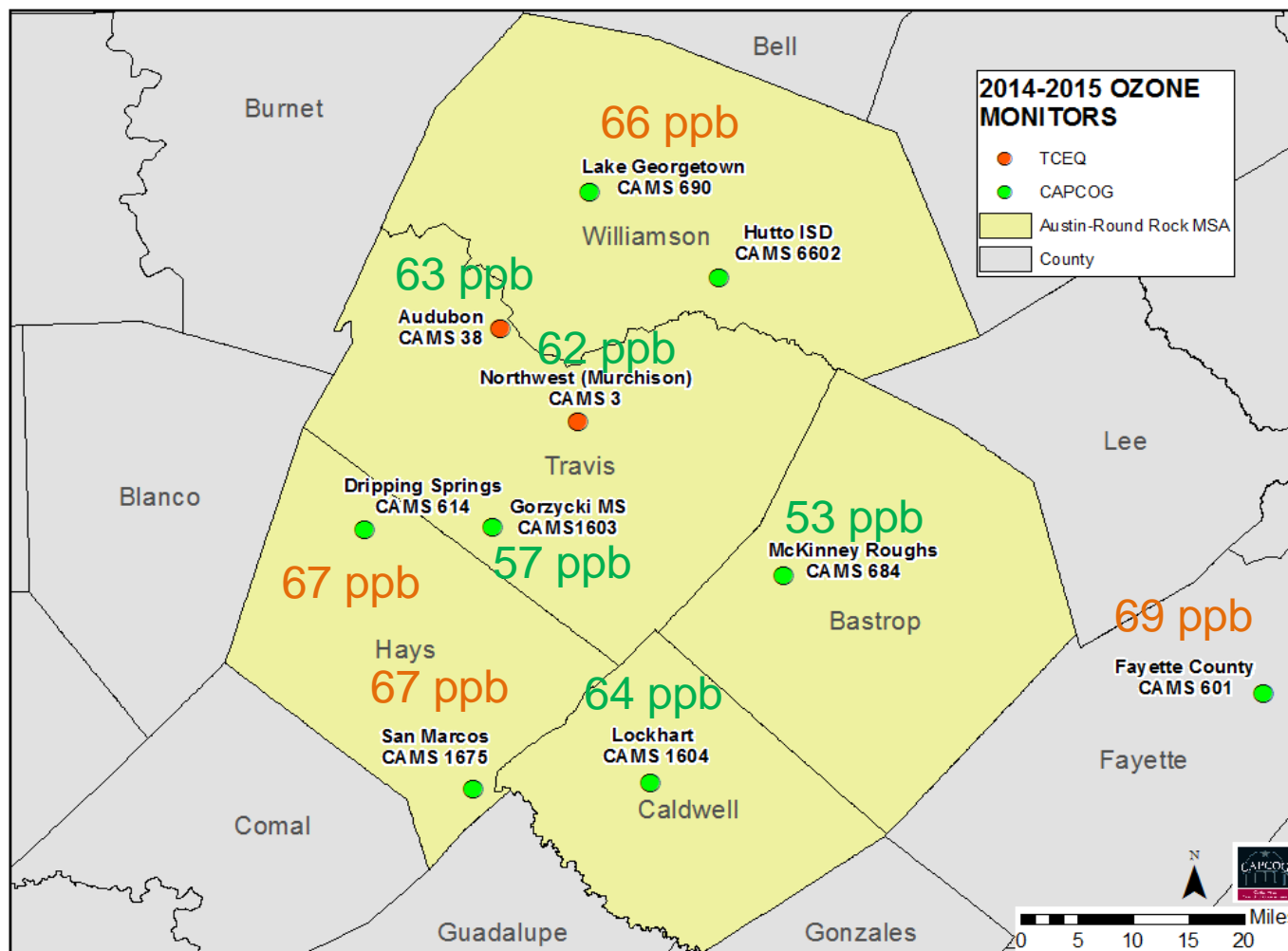
Compliance with Ozone NAAQS

Source: TCEQ https://www.tceq.texas.gov/cgi-bin/compliance/monops/8hr_attainment.pl



Projected by CAPCOG

2014 Ozone Levels Around the Region



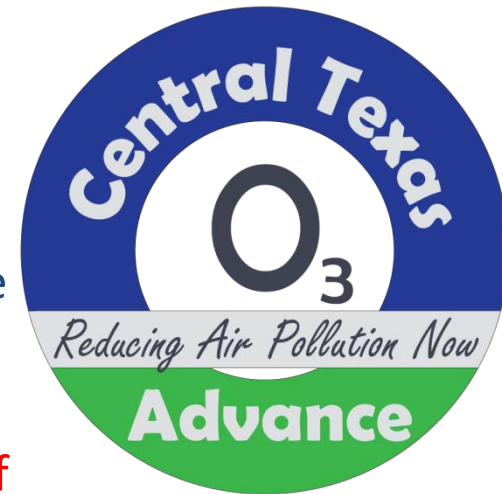
Central Texas Clean Air Coalition



- County and City Elected Officials
- Adopts Air Quality Plans
- Policies and Strategies to Guide Member Jurisdictions
- Won 2014 Clean Air Excellence Award from EPA

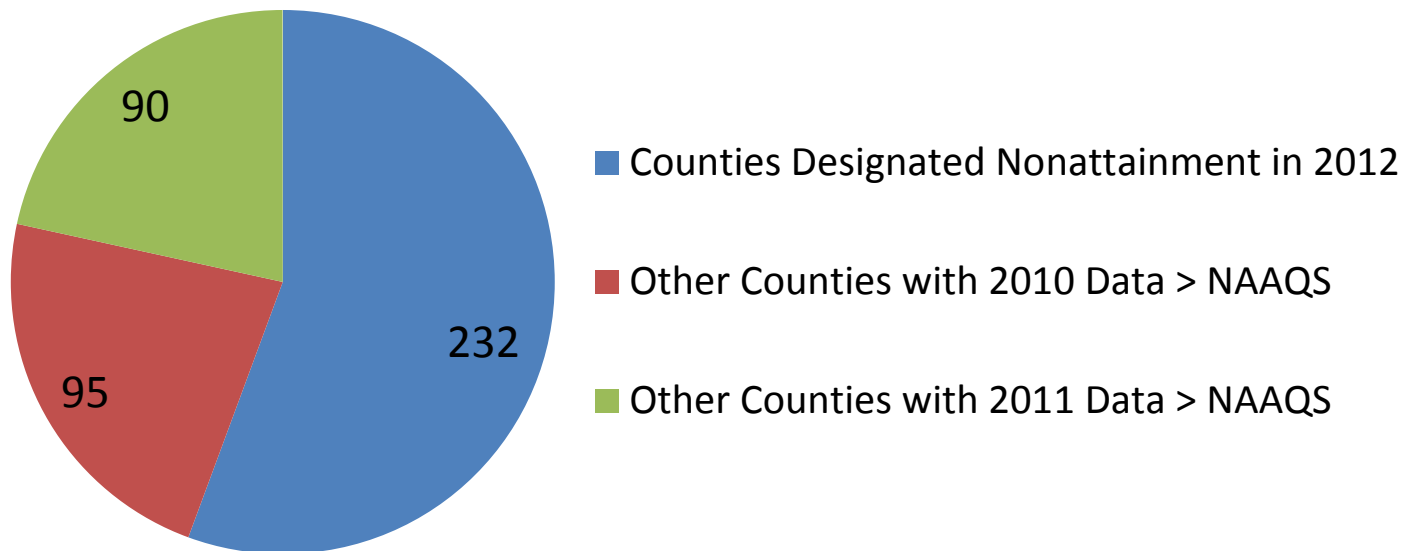
Regional Air Quality Goals

1. Stay in attainment of the 2008 eight-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) of 75 parts per billion (ppb);
2. Continue reducing the region's 8-hour ozone design value to avoid being designated nonattainment for a new ozone NAAQS;
3. Put the region in the best possible position to bring the area into attainment of an ozone standard expeditiously if it does violate an ozone standard or gets designated nonattainment;
4. Reduce the exposure of vulnerable populations to air pollution when the region experiences high ozone levels, and
5. Minimize the costs to the region of any potential future nonattainment designation.



1: Evaluate alternatives to assessing compliance

Sensitivity of 2008 Ozone NAAQS Designations to Meteorology



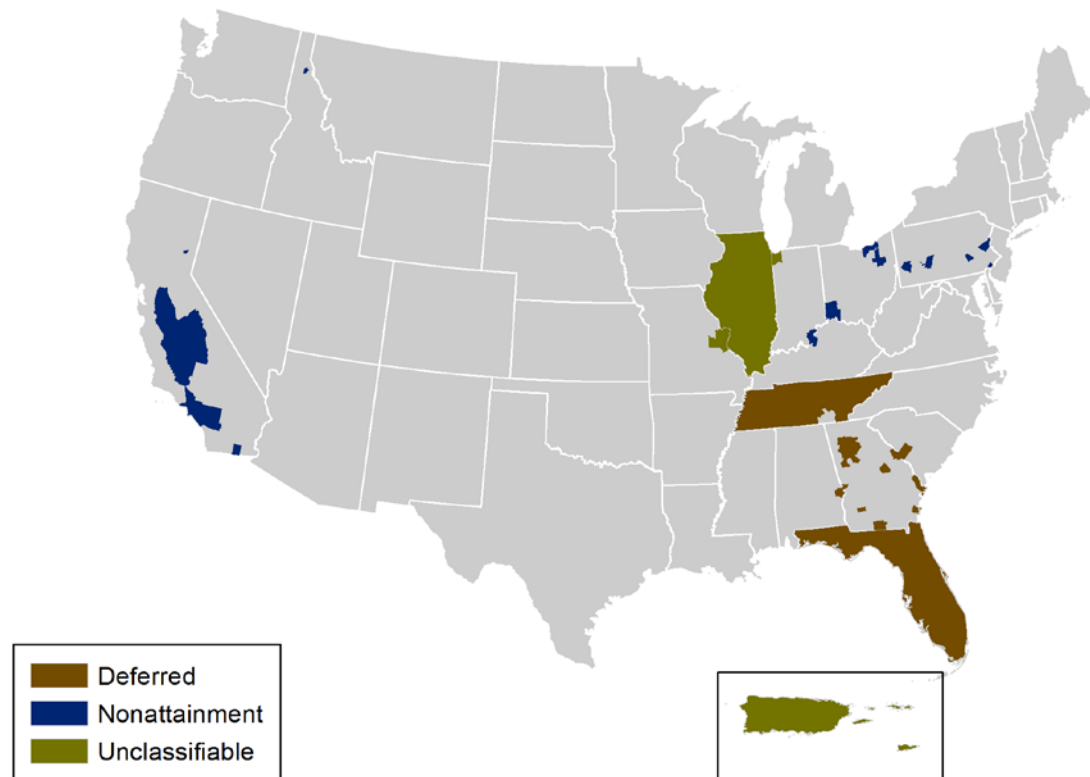
Source: EPA: <http://www.epa.gov/airtransport/O3TransportAQModelingTSD.pdf>

DRAFT CAC Letter to the EPA

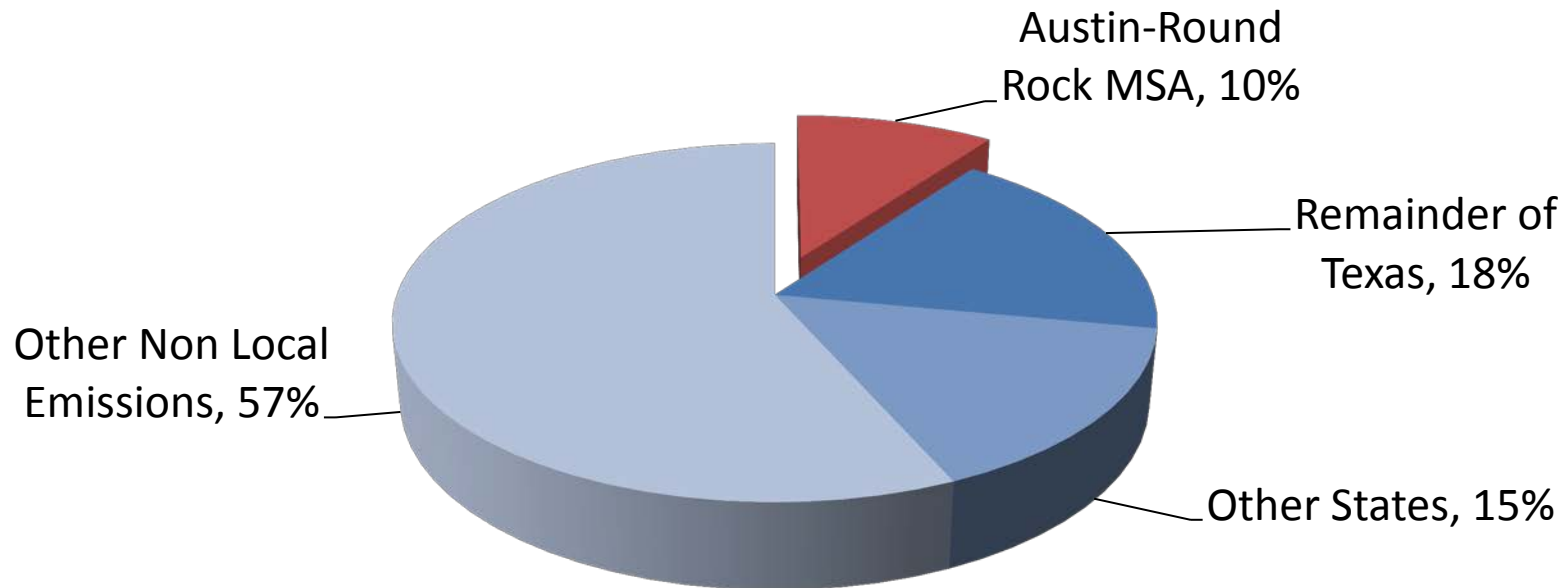
2: Be flexible in area designation process

- “Unclassifiable” Designations
- 1-Year Designation Deferrals

2012 Annual PM_{2.5} Designations



3: Address ozone pollution transported into metropolitan areas



Contributions to Peak Ozone Levels in Central Texas

Sources: EPA: <http://www.epa.gov/airtransport/O3TransportAQModelingTSD.pdf>
CAPCOG: http://www.capcog.org/documents/airquality/reports/2013/Task_8.3-APCA_Analysis_Final.pdf

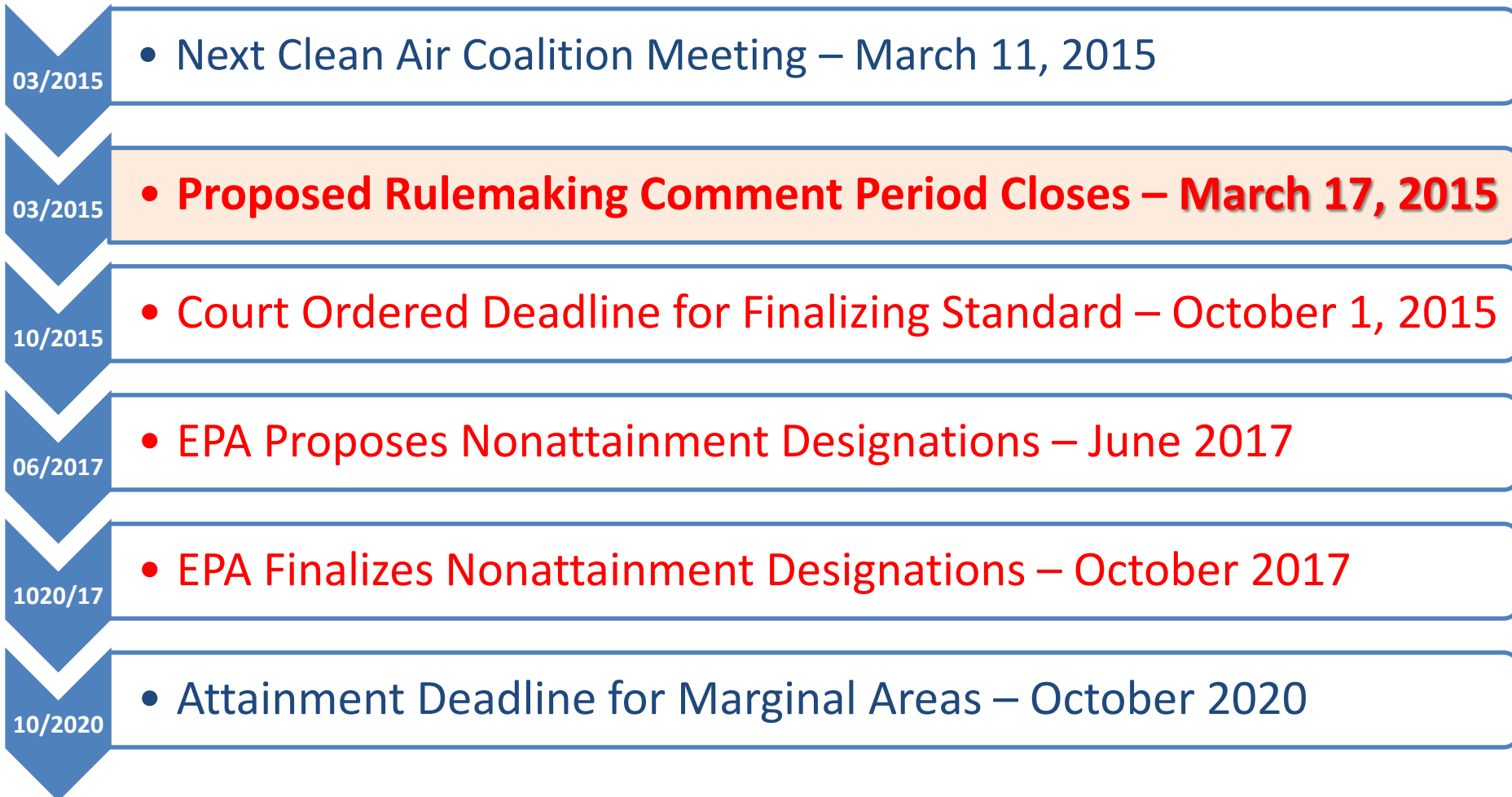
DRAFT CAC Letter to the EPA

4: Fully account for voluntarily adopted emission reduction measures

Measure	NO _x Reduction (tpd)	VOC Reduction (tpd)
Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance	2.95	2.45
TERP Grants	3.22	0.00
Low-Emission Diesel Regulations	2.49	0.00
Low-Emission Gasoline Regulations	0.31	1.16
Water Heaters, Small Boilers, and Process Heaters	0.51	0.00
Stage I Vapor Recovery at Gas Stations	0.00	6.46
Degreasing Rules	0.00	0.92
Cutback Asphalt Restrictions	0.00	0.24
State Emission Reduction Measures, 2013	9.48	11.23

Source: CAPCOG http://www.capcog.org/documents/airquality/reports/2014/Austin-Round_Rock_MSA_Annual_Air_Quality_Report_-_2013.pdf

Timeline



How Central Texas Can Respond to Proposal

- Formal Comment Letter to the EPA
 - CAC
 - Individual Jurisdictions
- Letter to the Congressional Delegation
- Ensure Existing Voluntary Commitments Are Fully Implemented
- Secure Additional Voluntary Reductions Over the Next 2 Years

Questions?



THANK YOU!



**Capital Area Council of Governments
Air Quality Program**

<http://www.capcog.org/airquality>

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