MANE-VU Technical Support Committee

OTC/MANE-VU Annual Meeting June 11, 2019

Overview

- 1. Regional Haze Terminology and RH Rule
- 2. Regional Haze SIPs 2nd Planning Period Update
- 3. Visibility Report Monitoring Data Updated
- 4. Consultation/MANE-VU Ask
- 5. Modeling
- 6. SIP Writing & Tracking
- 7. TSC Charge and Future Activities



The Regional Haze Issue

Clean Air Act Section 169A, Visibility Protection:

"...a national goal the prevention of any future, and the remedying of any existing, impairment of visibility in mandatory class I Federal areas which impairment results from manmade air pollution"

The Regional Haze Issue

- Mandatory Class I Federal Areas
 - National Parks >6,000 acres
 - Wilderness areas and National Memorial Parks
 >5,000 acres
 - All international parks
 - In existence on Aug 7, 1977
 - Visibility an important value at 156 of these areas



Note: Map taken from Federal Register, Vol. 64, No. 126, 7/1/99



Maine

- Acadia National Park
- Moosehorn Wilderness Area (Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge)

New Hampshire

 Great Gulf Wilderness & Presidential Range - Dry River Wilderness Areas (White Mountain National Forest)

Vermont

 Lye Brook Wilderness (Green Mountain National Forest)

New Jersey

Brigantine Wilderness Area (E.B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)

New Brunswick Canada

Roosevelt Campobello International Park

Regional Haze Terminology

Light Extinction

Source: Adapted from Malm http://vista.cira.colostate.edu/ Improve/visibility-basics/



- The scattering and absorption of light in the atmosphere due to gases and particles
- Causes a reduction in the amount of light from a scene returned to an observer (i.e. hazy conditions)
- Units of inverse mega-meters (Mm-1)

Regional Haze Terminology

- Deciview
 - An index for haze that expresses change in visibility
 - Logarithmic scale
 - Corresponds better with human perception
 - Roughly analogous to the decibel



Photo of Great Gulf Wilderness taken by Felice Janelle, NHDES

Regional Haze Terminology

- 20% Most Impaired Days
 - The 20% most impaired days for a given year/Class I area based on daily anthropogenic impairment

20% Clearest Days

 The 20% least impaired days for a given year/Class I area (whether there is anthropogenic contribution or not)

Regional Haze Rule

- Issued in 1999, amended in 2005 & 2017 (note: EPA has announced a decision to revisit aspects of the 2017 RHR)
- Overarching goal is to attain natural visibility conditions at Class I areas by 2064
- Every 10 years, states must submit State Implementation Plans (SIPs) describing how the goal will be/is being achieved
- Mid-course (5-yr) progress reports
- States are now in the 2nd SIP planning period covering 2018-2028

Regional Haze SIP 2nd Planning Period – Schedule

IMPROVE Data Analysis	✓ Decisions on Methods	
	✓ 1 st & 2 nd Planning Period Calculations, QA, and TSD	
Inventory Development & Analysis	✓ 2011/2028 Alpha 2 & TSD	
	 Emissions Trends Analysis 	
Modeling	 ✓ 2011 Base Case Modeling 	
	✓ 2028 Base Case Modeling	
	 ✓ 2028 Control Case Modeling 	
	✓ Document Modeling Platform and Results	
Four-Factor Analysis/Contribution Assessment	✓ Qc/d	
	 ✓ CALPUFF Assessment 	
	✓ Back Trajectory & IMPROVE Data Analysis	
	 ✓ 4-Factor Data Collection 	
	✓ HEDD Analysis	
	✓ Winter EGU NOx Control	
	 ✓ Synthesize Assessments 	
Updating RPGs	✓ Draft RPGs and Document	
Consultation	✓ Establish Consultation Process	
	✓ Intra-RPO Consultation	
	✓ Inter-RPO Consultation	
SIP Submission	SIP Submission (2019)	
	Rule Adoption as needed	1

Light Extinction Improvements



Baseline Period (2000-04) vs. 2nd RH Planning Period (2013-17)

- Contrib. from sulfates decreasing
- Contrib. from nitrates increasing in some areas



The contribution of sulfates is decreasing; the relative contribution of nitrates is increasing

In the past, more of the 20% MI days occurred in the summer months when sulfates dominate. Now, more of those days are occurring in the winter months when nitrates dominate.

MANE-VU "Ask" Review

MANE-VU States

- Ensure effective use of installed controls on EGUs (>=25 MW) yearround
- 4-factor analysis for most important sources (>3Mm⁻¹ extinction)
- Complete 2007 low sulfur fuel oil rule
- Update permits and/or rules to reflect already achieved rates for SO₂, NO_X, and PM_{2.5}
- Strive to meet particular NO_x emissions standards or perform 4-factor analysis on HEDD units
- Increase energy efficiency and implement CHP or other DG

Upwind States

- Ensure effective use of installed controls on EGUs (>=25 MW) yearround
- 4-factor analysis for most important sources (>3Mm⁻¹ extinction)
- Complete 2007 low sulfur fuel oil rule
- Update permits and/or rules to reflect already achieved rates for SO₂, NO_X, and PM_{2.5}
- Increase energy efficiency & implement CHP or other DG

FLMs / EPA

- FLMs consult with MANE-VU Class I States when scheduling prescribed burns
- EPA develop measures that will further reduce emissions from heavy-duty on-road vehicles
- EPA ensure that Class I Area state "Asks" are addressed in "contributing" state SIPs prior to approval

Photochemical Modeling Results (Deciviews)



Photochemical Modeling Results (Deciviews)



TSC Workgroups

Ad Hoc SIP Planning Workgroup:

- Working together for SIP development
- Enhancing SIPs based on feedback from EPA & FLM preliminary reviews
 - Addressing comments from our Federal partners

Upwind State SIP Tracking Workgroup:

• Will keep track of upwind state RH SIP submittals

TSC Charge and Future Activities

- 1. Coordinate among MANE-VU states & tribes and Federal partners
- 2. Monitor visibility trends for 5-year progress reports (due in 2025)
- 3. Track MANE-VU & upwind state SIP submittals and proposed EPA SIP actions & approvals
- 4. Coordinate with other Regional Planning Organizations as needed
- 5. Review & comment on EPA RH documents & guidance

6. Training

Questions? Thank You!

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