EPA Perspective: Environmental Priorities for Louisiana

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EPA Region 6, Dallas TX

Air & Waste Management Association
EPA Priorities

• Improve air quality
• Take action on climate change
• Clean up our communities
• Protecting America's waters
Improving Air Quality
- NAAQS -

• Meeting the new NAAQS
  – Designations
  – Progress
  – Challenges
Louisiana Ozone Nonattainment Areas

124 ppb 1-HR and 85 ppb 8-HR Standards
Air Quality
- Ozone -

Louisiana 8-hour Ozone Nonattainment Areas (2008 Standard)
## NAAQS Schedules

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Air Quality:
Measured Ozone vs 75 ppb Std.

Region 6 Ground Level Ozone Concentrations

County Monitoring Data, 8-Hour Ozone Design Values

1997 8-hour ozone standard = 0.08 ppm (allowed to go as high as 0.084 ppm).
2008 8-hour ozone standard = 0.075 ppm. Design Values = 3-year average of the annual 4th highest 8-hour ozone maxima.

Legend
2009-2011 8-Hour Ozone Design Value
- > 0.084 ppm
- > 0.075 ppm and < 0.085 ppm
- > 0.059 ppm and < 0.075 ppm
- < 0.060 ppm
- Nonattainment Counties/Parishes under the 2008 8-hour ozone standard

Sources: U.S. EPA AQS Database and State Agency Monitors.
Air Quality
- Measured Sulfur Dioxide -

> 75 ppb measured
2009-2011
Air Quality
- Cross State Air Pollution Rule (CSPAR) -
States Covered by the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR)
Air Toxics Standards
Why Focus on Power Plants?

About 50% of coal-burning units are over 40 years old

Over 40% of coal-burning units do not have modern controls are over 40 years old
MATS Coverage

MATS Covers Approximately 1100 Coal- and 300 Oil-fired Units > 25 MW at about 600 Power Plants Nationwide.
Proven control technologies include scrubbers, fabric filters, and activated carbon injection and are widely available.

Many units already use one or more of these technologies.

Some plants will upgrade existing controls (e.g. electrostatic precipitators).

Some plants may also install new controls (e.g. fabric filters, dry sorbent injection, or activated carbon injection).
Taking Action on Climate Change

Number of GHG Emitters
\[ \geq 1 \text{ million tons CO}_2\text{e} \]

- Region 6: 23%
- Rest of the US

2011 = modeled 2080 conditions
Taking Action on Climate Change

Worsening air quality

Increase in tropical storm intensity

Agricultural losses from drought

Hurricane Katrina, August 30, 2005
Taking Action on Climate Change

Successfully Restoring Coastal Habitat

Mississippi River Reintroduction

Barrier Island Restoration

EPA Climate Change Adaptation Plan

Training and Planning Assistance

Green infrastructure-
Low impact development
Cleaning Up Our Communities

Removal of Contaminants From Communities

- Episodic Release Reduction Initiative
- Stolthaven Terminal Response (Plaquemines Parish, LA)
Ready For Reuse Program
A Tool To Promote Land Revitalization

England Airpark
(Formerly England AFB)

Since 2003 in Louisiana:
• 18 RfR determinations issued
• 19 facilities
• 2,900 acres of land re-purposed
Protecting America’s Water

- **New Orleans Urban Waters Pilot**—Enhance community's use of water resources in New Orleans
- **Coastal Restoration**—Advance Gulf Coast restoration by impacting NRDA and RESTORE efforts
- **Enforcement Priorities**—Focused compliance assistance, inspections and enforcement at SSOs, CAFOs, MS4s and gas production facilities; improving state and tribal drinking water compliance