



Eastern Kern

Air Pollution Control District

Glen E. Stephens, P.E.
Air Pollution Control Officer

May 6, 2021

Board of Directors
Eastern Kern APCD
2700 "M" Street, Suite 302
Bakersfield, California 93301

SUBJECT: Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District Request to Voluntary Reclassify from Moderate to Serious Nonattainment Status

Honorable Board:

On June 4, 2018, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) classified the Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District (District) as a Moderate nonattainment area for the 2015, 8-hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) (83 FR 25776). The EPA lowered the 8-hour ozone NAAQS from 0.075 parts per million (ppm) to 0.070-ppm, established by rule on October 1, 2015.

Photochemical modeling conducted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) indicated the District may not attain the 8-hour ozone NAAQS by the Moderate nonattainment area deadline of August 2024, and will need more time to achieve the necessary emissions reductions in order to meet attainment. The Federal Clean Air Act allows the District, through CARB, to voluntarily reclassify to a higher classification. The higher classification will give the District an additional three years to meet our attainment goals. Therefore, with Board approval, the District is proposing CARB formally submit a request to EPA for a voluntary reclassification of the District from "Moderate" to "Serious" nonattainment the 2015, 8-hour ozone NAAQS, and modify the attainment date from August 2024 to August 2027. District Staff is aware there will be additional planning requirements; however, we believe this proactive approach is the best method for the District to achieve our attainment goals. A copy of the proposed reclassification letter to CARB is attached.

IT IS RECOMMENDED your Board approve and authorize the Air Pollution Control Officer to submit the attached reclassification letter to CARB.

Sincerely,

Glen E. Stephens, P.E.
Air Pollution Control Officer

GES: JC: kl
Enclosure