

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

NOTICE OF SIP REVISION PROPOSAL AND PUBLIC HEARING

Take notice that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) is proposing a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision, rule amendments, rule repeals and a new rule that pertains to the motor vehicle inspection program. The proposed Department rules, along with the Motor Vehicle Commission's (MVC) proposed rules at 48 N.J.R. 249(a), constitute a revision to New Jersey's SIP for Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance (I/M). The SIP revision is available for public review and comment.

The Department is proposing a revision to the SIP to address proposed changes to the Enhanced I/M Program, including: elimination of exhaust emissions tests (tailpipe testing) for all gasoline-fueled motor vehicles and elimination of the smoke opacity test for diesel-powered vehicles equipped with On-Board Diagnostics (OBD). OBD testing will be required for all vehicles subject to inspection and required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to be equipped with an OBD System. Proposed amendments also include replacement of the fuel cap leak test (gas cap test) for gasoline-fueled vehicles with a visual gas cap check, and other I/M program changes. The proposed SIP revision also includes I/M program modeling and USEPA performance standard modeling that evaluates the emission impacts that will result from the proposed changes.

In accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA), a proposed change to the Enhanced I/M Program requires the State to pass the USEPA's I/M Performance Standard Test and to demonstrate that the proposed changes will not interfere with the State's ability to attain or maintain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). I/M Program and USEPA Performance Standard Modeling reflecting the proposed changes demonstrates that the enhanced I/M Program will meet the USEPA's I/M Performance Standard test and will not interfere with the State's ability to attain or maintain the NAAQS for ozone or carbon monoxide. To replace the emission benefit losses associated with the proposed I/M program changes, New Jersey will apply previously unused emission reduction credits obtained from the implementation of the California Low Emission Vehicle program, which, as implemented in New Jersey, includes a Zero Emission Vehicle component.

Copies of the Department's proposed SIP revision are available on the Department's website at www.nj.gov/dep/baqp/sip/siprevs.htm and from the Department's Bureau of Evaluation and Planning at 401 E. State Street, second floor, in Trenton, New Jersey. A copy of this notice is also available on the website at http://www.state.nj.us/dep/baqp/.

A public hearing concerning the Department's proposed SIP revision will be conducted on:

Friday, June 24, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.
The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Hearing Room, 1st Floor
401 East State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

The Department encourages electronic submittal of comments. Written comments may be submitted by Friday, July 15, 2016 at http://www.nj.gov/dep/rules/comments; or in hard copy to:

Alice A. Previte, Esq.
Attention: DEP Docket No. 02-16-04
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
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