

milestones for reasonable further progress (RFP), and contingency measures. Requirements for the control measures include: Provisions to assure that reasonably available control measures (RACM), including reasonably available control technologies (RACT), shall be implemented no later than four years after designation, which was January 20, 1998, for Thompson Falls. However, under the PM₁₀ clean data areas approach that we are proposing to use here, we are only proposing to require the control measures (including the provisions for enforcing those measures) and the emissions inventory for Thompson Falls.

1. Clean Data Areas Approach

The clean data areas approach applies EPA's clean data policy concept, already in place for ozone nonattainment areas², to selected PM₁₀ nonattainment areas in order to approve control measures for these areas into the SIP. The approach only applies to PM₁₀ areas with simple PM₁₀ source problems, such as residential wood combustion and fugitive dust problems. If an area meets the following requirements, the state will no longer be required to develop an attainment demonstration, contingency measures or a RFP demonstration. The area must meet the following requirements:

(a) The area must be attaining the PM₁₀ NAAQS with the three most recent years of quality-assured air quality data.

(b) The state must continue to operate an appropriate PM₁₀ air quality monitoring network, in accordance with 40 CFR part 58, in order to verify the attainment status of the area.

(c) The control measures for the area, which were responsible for bringing the area into attainment, must be approved by EPA as meeting the CAA requirements for RACM/RACT.

(d) A PM₁₀ emissions inventory must be completed for the area.

III. Analysis of Requirements To Use Clean Data Areas Approach

A. Attainment of the PM₁₀ NAAQS

Whether an area has attained the PM₁₀ NAAQS is based exclusively upon measured air quality levels over the most recent and complete three calendar year period. See 40 CFR part 50 and 40 CFR 50, appendix K. On November 1, 2001 (66 FR 55102), we published a

final rulemaking action declaring that the Thompson Falls PM₁₀ nonattainment area was in attainment of the PM₁₀ standard based on 1998–2000 monitoring data and that the area had attained the standard by its attainment date. The applicable attainment date as required by the CAA for Thompson Falls was December 31, 2000. If you wish to obtain more information regarding our attainment determination, please see our November 1, 2001, **Federal Register** document.

To use the PM₁₀ clean data areas approach, an area must be attaining with the three most recent years of quality assured data at the time of the proposed notice. In this case, the three most recent years are 2000–2002. During the 2000–2002 period, data was collected at the Thompson Falls High School station (AQS identification #30–089–0007). The regulatory requirement for data capture in 40 CFR part 50, Appendix K, is 75 percent on a quarterly basis. The 2000–2002 monitoring data shows no exceedances of either the 24-hour or annual PM₁₀ NAAQS during this period, and data capture met the 75 percent criterion with the exception of two quarters. Data capture was 73 percent during the third quarter of 2000 and 71 percent during the fourth quarter of 2001. According to the “Guideline on Exceptions to Data Requirements for Determining Attainment of Particulate Matter Standards” (see EPA document #405–/4–87–005, April 1987), when data capture is at least 50 percent but less than 75 percent, data may be substituted for the missing data. Per the above-referenced guideline, monitoring data from the same quarter in any one of the years use to determine attainment may be substituted for missing PM₁₀ data. The maximum PM₁₀ value that was observed in that quarter over the last three years is substituted for missing scheduled sampling days. When we apply data substitution per the above-referenced guideline, we find no exceedances of the 24-hour or annual PM₁₀ NAAQS for the 2000–2002 period.

B. Continued Operation of PM₁₀ Monitoring Network

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) will continue to operate its PM₁₀ air quality monitoring network in accordance with 40 CFR part 58, in order to verify the attainment status of the area. We approved Montana's state-wide air quality monitoring program on March 9, 1981 (see 46 FR 15686). This approval established the state and local air monitoring station (SLAMS) network, the maintenance requirements for the

monitoring stations, and the method of data reporting and annual review for the stations. The stations are to monitor ambient levels of criteria pollutants (for which NAAQS have been established). All SLAMS are to be operated in accordance with the criteria established in 40 CFR 58, subpart B, and are to be sited according to 40 CFR 58, appendix E. Reference or equivalent monitors are to be used as defined in 40 CFR 50.1 and the quality assurance procedures are to be followed as outlined in 40 CFR 58, appendix A. On December 21, 1993 (see 58 FR 67324), we approved revisions to the state-wide monitoring SIP to update the existing monitoring SIP.

Monitoring in Thompson Falls for PM₁₀ is currently performed at the Thompson Falls High School station (AQS identification #30–089–0007). EPA Region VIII conducts periodic reviews of Montana's ambient air network, which includes the Thompson Falls site. Based on these reviews, our monitoring staff has approved this monitoring station.

C. Control Measure Requirements

The moderate PM₁₀ nonattainment areas, designated after the 1990 Amendments, must submit provisions to ensure that RACM is implemented no later than 4 years after designation, which was January 20, 1998 for Thompson Falls (see sections 172(c)(1) and 189(a)(1)(C)). The General Preamble contains a detailed discussion of our interpretation of the RACM requirements (see 57 FR 13539–13545 and 13560–13561).

The State should identify available control measures to make sure they are reasonable and that they meet the area's attainment needs, (see 57 FR 13540–13544). A State may reject an available control measure if it is technologically infeasible or unreasonably expensive. In addition, RACM doesn't require controls on emissions from sources that are insignificant (*de minimis*) and doesn't require an area to use all available control measures if it demonstrates timely attainment and if using additional controls wouldn't expedite attainment.

Thompson Falls Control Measures

Montana's SIP revisions for Thompson Falls contain control measures for sources of re-entrained fugitive dust that were adopted on June 24, 1997, and are part of a maintenance agreement between the city of Thompson Falls, the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) and the MDEQ. The maintenance agreement is applicable inside the

² See memorandum from John Seitz, Director, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) to Regional Division Directors entitled “Reasonable Further Progress, Attainment Demonstration, and Related Requirements for Ozone Nonattainment Areas Meeting the Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard,” May 10, 1995.