



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT  
*Governor*

SPENCER J. COX  
*Lieutenant Governor*

Department of  
Environmental Quality

Alan Matheson  
*Executive Director*

DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY  
Bryce C. Bird  
*Director*

**Air Quality Board**  
Erin Mendenhall *Chair*  
Cassady Kristensen, *Vice-Chair*  
Kevin R. Cromar  
Mitra Basiri Kashanchi  
Randal S. Martin  
Alan Matheson  
John Rasband  
Arnold W. Reitze Jr.  
William C. Stringer  
Bryce C. Bird,  
*Executive Secretary*

DAQ-063-19

**UTAH AIR QUALITY BOARD MEETING**

**FINAL AGENDA**

**Monday June 24, 2019 - 1:30 p.m.**  
**195 North 1950 West, Room 1015**  
**Salt Lake City, Utah 84116**

- I. Call-to-Order
- II. Date of the Next Air Quality Board Meeting: August 7, 2019
- III. Approval of the Minutes for June 5, 2019, Board Meeting.
- IV. Final Adoption: SIP Section XX.A. Regional Haze. Executive Summary; and Section XX.D(6). Regional Haze. Long-Term Strategy for Stationary Sources. Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Assessment for NOx and PM. Presented by Jay Baker.
- V. Final Adoption: Change in Proposed Rule R307-110-28. Regional Haze. Presented by Thomas Gunter.
- VI. Final Adoption: R307-150-3. Applicability. Presented by Thomas Gunter.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with special needs (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) should contact Larene Wyss, Office of Human Resources at (801) 536-4281, TDD (801) 536-4284 or by email at [lwyss@utah.gov](mailto:lwyss@utah.gov).

# ITEM 3



## State of Utah

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*Executive Secretary*

### UTAH AIR QUALITY BOARD MEETING

June 5, 2019 – 1:30 p.m.  
195 North 1950 West, Room 1015  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

### DRAFT MINUTES

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#### I. Call-to-Order

Erin Mendenhall called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

Board members present: Erin Mendenhall, Cassady Kristensen, Kevin Cromar, Mitra Kashanchi, Randal Martin, and Arnold Reitze

Excused: Alan Matheson, John Rasband, and William Stringer

Executive Secretary: Bryce Bird

#### II. Date of the Next Air Quality Board Meeting: June 24, 2019

Mr. Reitze will not be able to attend.

#### III. Approval of the Minutes for March 6, 2019, and May 1, 2019, Board Meetings.

Mr. Reitze submitted minor grammatical changes to be incorporated. Ms. Kristensen noted a correction on line 39 of page 3 of 4 of the March 6, 2019, draft minutes, "...thresholds of 500 tons" should be corrected to, "...thresholds of 5 tons."

- Arnold Reitze motioned to approve the March and May 2019 minutes with the changes by Mr. Reitze and Ms. Kristensen. Kevin Cromar seconded. The Board approved unanimously.

#### IV. Propose for Final Adoption: R307-401-10. Source Category Exemptions. Presented by Thomas Gunter.

Thomas Gunter, Rules Coordinator at DAQ, stated that on March 6, 2019, the Board proposed amended R307-401-10 for public comment. These amendments exempt gasoline dispensing facilities

(GDFs) from the requirement to obtain an approval order as required in R307-401-5 through R307-401-8. A public comment period was held from April 1 to May 1, 2019. The DAQ received one comment letter during this period, from Hill Air Force Base (HAFB). A summarization of the comments made, as well as staff's responses, are included in the packet. Shortly after the Board packet was released to the public, DAQ staff had a discussion with the HAFB commenter regarding DAQ's response to their comments, specifically comment #1. HAFB believes the DAQ response nullifies permit exemptions for all major sources. The DAQ believes the following clarification to our response is in order.

In addition to the requirements listed in the original response, a major source is required to obtain a Title V permit. All equipment with applicable federal standards is listed in the Title V equipment list. The appropriate operating limitations as well as the maintenance, monitoring, and record keeping requirements are listed in the Title V permit. The DAQ New Source Review (NSR) and Title V programs work closely together to achieve consistency in the regulated equipment list between the two permits and so GDFs should be included in major source NSR permits.

Also, as the DAQ evaluated potential permit conditions for GDFs in NSR permits, it determined the only necessary conditions would include a requirement to comply with federal and state standards. As a result, for GDFs that are minor sources, there is no benefit to requiring these sources to be subject to the NSR permitting requirements as the only permit conditions would be the requirement to comply with existing state and federal standards.

The goal of this rule change is to exempt GDFs that are not subject to the permitting rules for any other sources of air pollutants. Small source exemptions are not impacted by this rule change. Based on the DAQ's response to comments and this clarification, the DAQ has made no changes to the originally proposed amendments. Staff recommends that the Board adopt R307-401-10 as amended.

- Kevin Cromar motioned that the Board propose for final adoption, R307-401-10, Source Category Exemptions. Mitra Kashanchi seconded. The Board approved unanimously.

**V. Propose for Public Comment: Amend SIP Section X, Part A, Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program, General Requirements and Applicability; and Part F, Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program, Cache County. Presented by Thomas Gunter.**

Thomas Gunter, Rules Coordinator at DAQ, stated that Utah Code Annotated 41-6a-1642 gives authority to each county to design and manage a vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) program when it is required to attain and maintain any national ambient air quality standard. Section X incorporates these county programs into our State Implementation Plan (SIP). Part A summarizes I/M requirements that are common among all I/M programs. The remaining parts, B through F, incorporate each I/M programs by county.

Amended Part A of Section X incorporates changes in Utah Code 41-6a-1642, to include the addition of language that instructs counties to consult with the DAQ before making changes to their I/M program. Amended Part F incorporates the current Cache County I/M program.

The DAQ has worked closely with EPA and county I/M officials to remove obsolete language and to ensure that Section X accurately reflects the current I/M programs. It is important to note that Parts B through F only incorporate participating county's I/M regulations and ordinances into the SIP. Although DAQ staff works tirelessly with local I/M officials, the DAQ does not create or approve the individual plans. Once counties adopt their regulations and ordinances at the local level and DAQ staff determines that all state and federal rulemaking requirements have been satisfied, DAQ moves

to incorporate those regulations and ordinances into its SIP. Staff recommends that the Board propose amended SIP Section X, Parts A and F for public comment. Several questions were then addressed by DAQ staff.

Why does Cache County have an exemption for farm trucks; and why is there a difference in fees for an I/M test? Cache County only charges \$15 per I/M test and Salt Lake charges \$40 per test? Mat Carlile, Environmental Planning Consultant at DAQ, replied that farm trucks are exempt in statute. Each county is given authority over its individual county in how their program is designed and implemented. Cache County chose to put a cap of \$15 per test, while Salt Lake County chose to institute a free market solution by not having a cap. These questions would need to be addressed to the county health departments at the time they change rules and ordinances related to their I/M program. Also, there was a bill that ran a few years ago in the state legislature to put a cap on the emission program, which eventually did not pass.

Mr. Reitze commented that it is hardly a free market when the government mandates these types of tests and then they create a situation where the private sector can overcharge the public. Originally, in the 1970's the testing was more complicated because you had to do the two-stage tests and had to have a chassis dynamometer, which took time. Unlike the computer controls in today's vehicles. It is essentially a \$40 tax on individuals in Salt Lake County.

Does Cache County charge a certificate fee to stations? If so, why is it not included in their appendix? Mr. Carlile did not know the answer but he would follow up with the Bear River Health Department who prepared the attached maintenance program document. In attendance, Richard Valentine, Manager of the Air Quality Bureau for Salt Lake County, responded that there is a fee charged for the stations to be in the program and then each station pays a fee to the contractors which is about \$1 for each test authorization. The Board responded that if Cache County charges a certificate fee, that should be included in the appendix, if that is a way the county generates revenue for the program. Staff will follow up with the Bear River Health Department on this issue.

Are there any state rules involving fee limits counties are able to charge for the I/M program? Not that staff is aware of.

Dave McNeill, Planning Branch Manager at DAQ, commented that one of DAQ's concern with this item is, did Bear River Health Department follow statute when they adopted their program, and does it also meet the requirements and authority that the Legislature gave them, and the answer is yes. The question before the Air Quality Board today is, does it get adopted into our SIP or not. The questions being asked of staff is not in their purview. DAQ has no authority over the programs that the Legislature gave to the county health departments to incorporate or not incorporate. DAQ only does what statute allows.

The Board responded that is exactly what they want to know, should this be adopted into the SIP. And if, by being adopted into the SIP, what is the effect of removing two-speed idle testing, and is that going to impact the emissions significantly in Cache Valley, which will then impact the PM<sub>2.5</sub>? Staff responded that the county did do a Section 110(l) demonstration which will be made available during the public comment period beginning July 1, 2019. The Board asks that the demonstration be prominently available when it goes out for public comment.

Chair Mendenhall commented that although she appreciates Mr. McNeill giving clarity to the conversation, she does not feel that it is inappropriate for Board members to ask questions if they do not feel there is clarity. One of the Board's job is to ask questions and expects that staff will let the Board know when out of its purview and to keep the dialogue collaborative.

What are the element dates in the annual report in Part A? Staff responded that the date elements are found in the Code of Federal Regulations and includes a whole list of things such as failure rate, how many cars go through the program, how many stations they have, how many tests they did, or unknown outcomes of tests.

- Cassidy Kristensen motioned that the Board propose amended SIP Section X, Part A and Part F for public comment. Randal Martin seconded. The Board approved unanimously.

**VI. Propose for Public Comment: Amend R307-110-31, Section X, Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program, Part A, General Requirements and Applicability; and R307-110-36, Section X, Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program, Part F, Cache County. Presented by Thomas Gunter.**

Thomas Gunter, Rules Coordinator at DAQ, stated the amendments to Section X, Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program, Parts A and F will have to be incorporated into the Utah Air Quality rules. R307-110-31 and R307-110-36 are the rules that incorporate these subsections of the SIP. Staff recommends that the Board propose R307-110-31 and R307-110-36 for public comment.

To the question if there is a requirement for the county to do a regulatory impact analysis of the cost and benefit before the county made its decision, staff responded that the county level economic analysis was not a focus of this rulemaking and so it is not known at this time. Staff will research with the county for information on cost and benefit, and make the information available, if possible.

- Kevin Cromar motioned that the Board propose amended R307-110-31, Section X, Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program; and R307-110-36, Section X, Part F. Mitra Kashanchi seconded. The Board approved unanimously.

**VII. Propose for Public Comment: Amend R307-204, Emission Standards: Smoke Management. Presented by Thomas Gunter.**

Thomas Gunter, Rules Coordinator at DAQ, stated that on March 21, 2019, House Bill 155 was signed into law, amending Utah Code 19-2-107.5, Solid Fuel Burning. As a result, R307-204 must be amended to include the requirements set forth in the newly amended law. Additional amendments have been made to streamline the rule, reducing redundancies and removing outdated language. These changes have been summarized in the memorandum. There is no relaxation of technical requirements; therefore, there is no potential for backsliding in the proposed rule change. Staff recommends that the Board propose amended R307-204 for public comment.

Can you explain what is meant by the term, “less than full suppression?” Brook Chadwick, Fire Chief for the Uinta Wasatch Cache National Forest based in Salt Lake, explained that federal fire policy has very set definitions of what different terms are in wildfire management. But that in federal fire policy there is no term, “less than full suppression.” And so all that the land managers can do is go off of what is written in House Bill 155 and interpret as best they can. Two perceptions of less than full suppression might be one, that an area is not safe for firefighters to engage the fire where it currently exists. This would mean they would need to find a better location to engage that fire, which could be further away and mean more acres burn. The other option is where they are looking to utilize fire on the landscape to manage the vegetation. The perception with this would be using fire on the landscape as mother nature intended it, which also typically means there would be a larger fire footprint on the landscape once the fire is suppressed versus putting everything out as small as possible in size.

Would it be helpful if the Board added language to the nonfull suppression event definition? After working on this for two months, federal and state land managers came to the agreement that they would notify the DAQ of every fire, because every fire could have different strategies and tactics associated with it. It is easier to notify the DAQ of all fire than to try to categorize a fire because it could be misinterpreted as well.

It was suggested that by adding the word “safely” on line 40 of page 2 of 11 so it reads, “...land manager safely secures...,” if that is possible for a solution? Staff response was that the definition was taken directly from statute which could not be change in this rule.

Recently EPA expanded exceptional events to included prescribed fires. Does this requirement need to be included in the smoke management plan (SMP) to qualify for an exceptional event? Joel Karmazyn, Environmental Scientist at DAQ, responded that no it does not need to be included. The SMP is a standing document that is basically borne out of the interim national policy, and does not necessarily need to be updated for the exceptional events rule. Mr. Karmazyn concluded that after this rulemaking, DAQ will move forward on work to update the SMP.

- Randal Martin motioned to approve amended R307-204, Smoke Management, for public comment. Arnold Reitze seconded. The Board approved unanimously.

#### **VIII. Pacific Energy and Mining Company – Settlement Agreement. Presented by Rik Ombach.**

Rik Ombach, Minor Source Compliance Section Manager at DAQ, stated that Pacific Energy and Mining Company (PEMC) operate a gas compressor station in Grand County. On a routine inspection in September 2017, they were cited for extra equipment, outdated equipment, and records violation. Over the last 18 months, DAQ has been working with PEMC to get them back into compliance. PEMC is in the process of obtaining a new approval order with the new equipment and the records have been updated and are complete. It is proposed that the Board approve the \$71,535 settlement amount. Mr. Ombach also indicated that due to the fact that the site is not manned daily, an appointment was needed to obtain access for the inspection in September 2017.

- Mitra Kashanchi motioned that the Board accept this settlement agreement for Pacific Energy and Mining Company. Cassady Kristensen seconded. The Board approved unanimously.

#### **IX. Informational Items.**

##### **A. Air Toxics. Presented by Robert Ford.**

In response to an inquiry about the asbestos program and if the this is under the Board’s purview, Mr. Bird responded that yes, it is, under the 800 series of air quality rules. DAQ implements both the federal national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP) for asbestos and the asbestos hazard emergency response act (AHERA) for schools under DAQ’s Air Toxics Lead Asbestos Standards (ATLAS) section. Inquiries about the programs can call the DAQ main office number at (801) 536-4000 to be directed to the appropriate staff.

##### **B. Compliance. Presented by Jay Morris and Harold Burge.**

**C. Monitoring. Presented by Bo Call.**

Bo Call, Air Monitoring Section Manager at DAQ, updated that particulate has been great so far due to the weather. The first ozone exceedance was recorded at Herriman at 73 ppb for an 8-hour average. This was a very unique late evening spike event from a science perspective because it only happened at the one monitor during a mostly cloudy day and was likely due to lightning in the area at that time.

Dr. Martin also explained that there are two mechanisms that lightning contributes to ozone. One is direct disassociation of O<sub>2</sub> molecules that will then recombine with other O<sub>2</sub> to give you ozone. The other is that lightning will also produce NO<sub>x</sub> and that will further ozone chemistry as well.

**D. Other Items to be Brought Before the Board.**

The Board discussed options for dates to travel to the Uinta Basin for an off-site Board meeting in September or October. After discussion, Board members tentatively decided on an October 2, 2019, meeting in the Uinta Basin.

Mr. Bird, explained that due to the extended public comment period for the Regional Haze SIP presented to the Board in March 2019, staff responses were not completed in time for this meeting. The regional haze items will be presented at the at the June 24, 2019, Board meeting.

**E. Board Meeting Follow-up Items.**

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Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

# ITEM 4



State of Utah

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DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY  
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DAQ-058-19

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Air Quality Board

**THROUGH:** Bryce C. Bird, Executive Secretary

**FROM:** Jay Baker, Environmental Scientist

**DATE:** June 11, 2019

**SUBJECT:** FINAL ADOPTION: SIP Section XX.A. Regional Haze. Executive Summary; and Section XX.D(6). Regional Haze. Long-Term Strategy for Stationary Sources. Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Assessment for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM.

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The purpose of this State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision is to remove the analysis and weight of evidence test from the Regional Haze SIP and, using a new analysis, apply the two-prong test contained in the Regional Haze rule to the best available retrofit technology (BART) alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> SIP the Governor submitted to the EPA on June 4, 2015. Staff worked closely with EPA to select the 2011 CAMx regional modeling platform as the best analysis tool available for evaluating the impacts in visibility resulting from changes in emissions.

The two-prong test prescribed by the Regional Haze rule in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3) says that any proposed alternative to BART must show that:

- (1) Visibility does not decline in any Class I area; and
- (2) There is an overall improvement in visibility, determined by comparing the average differences between BART and the alternative over all affected Class I areas.

Based on the modeling included in staff's analysis, the BART alternative passes both prongs of the test.

In June 2015, the Air Quality Board adopted the Regional Haze SIP section addressing BART for NO<sub>x</sub> with an alternative set of control measures (called a BART alternative). The Governor submitted the SIP to EPA, requesting its approval. EPA then made a dual proposal in which it argued for both approving and disapproving the BART alternative. EPA requested more information from all interested parties to help it make the final determination. In the final rule, EPA disapproved the State's BART alternative but stated

that it was a close call. At issue in that decision was that Utah chose to weigh the nine factors it considered in the BART alternative analysis fairly equally, while EPA chose to put all the weight on one factor. At EPA's request, staff is submitting a new, more scientifically accurate analysis of the BART alternative using the two-prong test and EPA's preferred photochemical CAMx model. While the weight of evidence analysis is more subjective, the two-prong test is a numerical objective pass-fail test.

On March 6, 2019, the Board proposed revisions to SIP Section XX, Parts A and D for a 30-day public comment period. DAQ received a timely request to extend the public comment period, which DAQ approved by extending the comment period by 15 days. The public comment period was held from April 1, 2019, through May 15, 2019. Additionally, a public hearing was held to receive oral and written comments, on April 17, 2019. DAQ received numerous comments throughout the comment period. A summary of those comments, along with staff responses can be found in Attachment A of this memorandum. Comments and responses most relevant to this SIP revision are listed first. They include those addressing the applicability of the two-prong test in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3) and the technical merits of the model used to demonstrate conformity with the two-prong test. DAQ received other comments related to health and environmental concerns not addressed by the regional haze program, cost of compliance, and the second regional haze planning period. These comments are also addressed in the responses.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board approve revisions to SIP Sections XX, Part A and Part D.6 as amended.

# **ATTACHMENT**

**A**

# Response to Comments

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## *SIP Section XX.A and Section XX.D(6) Regional Haze Amendments*

**1)** [EPA] The agency made several comments and suggested edits for clarification within the proposed SIP revision and the Staff Review.

**Response:** These comments and edits have been incorporated into the current version of the Proposed SIP and Staff Review. These comments are attached as a reference to the edits made within the proposed SIP revision and Staff Review. (See *Attachment B* of the Board memo)

## **Applicability of the Two-prong Test**

**2)** [Wasatch Clean Air Coalition] As a regulated utility PacifiCorp is subject to rulings of the Public Service Commissions of 5 states. These states often dispute cost allocation of things like pollution controls of questionable requirement. Ordering SCR would give little visibility benefit, cost hundreds of millions, and divert many resources from more useful efforts.

DAQ staff has satisfied the two pronged test using the most up-to-date model. The requirements of the Regional Haze Rule are satisfied. The proposed SIP should be finalized and attention turned to useful new work.

**Response:** While cost is not a consideration under the 2-prong test prescribed in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3), it is worth noting that the actual cost of SCR (required by EPA's FIP) is much higher than the cost of controls required by the BART alternative.

**3)** [HEAL Utah, Sierra Club, National Parks Conservation Association (hereinafter referred to as Conservation Organizations)] Because the State's SIP revision would result in a significantly different distribution of emissions from BART, it fails to show "greater reasonable progress" than EPA's FIP.

**Response:** The test of "greater reasonable progress" does not rely solely on the distribution of the emissions. The same section of the Regional Haze Rule quoted by the Conservation Organizations states:

If the distribution of emissions is not substantially different than under BART, and the alternative measure results in greater emission reductions, then the alternative measure may be deemed to achieve greater reasonable progress. If the distribution of emissions is significantly different, the State must conduct dispersion modeling to determine differences in visibility between BART and the trading program for each impacted Class I area, for the worst and best 20 percent of days. The modeling would demonstrate "greater reasonable progress" if both of the following two criteria are met:

(i) Visibility does not decline in any Class I area, and

(ii) There is an overall improvement in visibility, determined by comparing the average differences between BART and the alternative over all affected Class I areas.

40 C.F.R. § 51.308(e)(3)(i) and (ii).

While the distribution of emissions is not substantially different geographically between BART and the alternative, the type of pollutants reduced is different. Because the State opted to include SO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> reductions as part of the alternative, the Regional Haze Rule requires the State to evaluate “reasonable progress” based on 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3). That test requires the State to conduct dispersion modeling to show that the BART alternative meets the two criteria above (this is referred to as the two-prong test). The dispersion modeling and application of the two-prong test were undertaken in close coordination with EPA.

**4)** [PacifiCorp] The Utah SIP meets the requirements of both prongs of the two-prong test for both the 20 percent best and 20 percent worst visibility days. CAMx modeling results predict that Utah’s SIP proposal improves visibility relative to the Baseline scenario at each of the analyzed Class I areas during both the 20 percent best and 20 percent worst visibility days. Furthermore, modeling results show that, on average, visibility improvement at the analyzed Class I areas is greater for the Utah SIP scenario than for the EPA FIP scenario during both the 20 percent best and 20 percent worst visibility days.

Additionally, when viewed on a Class I Area specific basis, the BART Alternative provides better visibility improvement than the EPA FIP. On the 20 percent best days, the CAMx model results indicate the BART Alternative has greater visibility impacts at 13 out of 15 Class I areas. On the 20 percent worst days, the CAMx model results indicate the BART Alternative has greater visibility impacts at 11 out of 15 Class I areas. Therefore, the CAMx model results indicate that the BART Alternative provides better visibility improvement than EPA’s FIP, both on a Class I Area specific basis as well as an average basis. The BART Alternative provides better visibility improvement than EPA’s FIP, and should be approved.

**Response:** Based on the results of the modeling performed by AECOM, staff agrees with this comment.

**5)** [Conservation Organizations] “In its latest attempt to justify the avoidance of CAA compliance via emission reductions consistent with SCR on Hunter Units 1 and 2 and Huntington Units 1 and 2, notwithstanding EPA’s prior findings, Utah now seeks to provide additional justification for its twice-rejected approach.”

**Response:** Although Utah is providing additional justification for its SIP through this action, this additional justification does not constitute “avoidance” of compliance with the regional haze program. Instead, this technical demonstration shows that Utah has been, and is now, complying with the program. Although commenters complain that EPA has already disapproved the state’s NO<sub>x</sub>-reduction efforts, EPA has not previously “twice-rejected” the same approach. The commenter mistakenly assumes that because Utah maintains that current NO<sub>x</sub> controls meet the visibility program requirements, Utah is simply presenting the same set of data to EPA each time it submits a visibility SIP. Even a cursory review of the record shows that such is not the case.

A state may submit a BART analysis under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(1)(ii). The regulation also provides three alternative methods to demonstrate that a state meets the requirement that the alternative measure results in “greater reasonable progress” than BART: (1) show greater emission reductions than BART (40

CFR 51.308(e)(3)); (2) conduct modeling to show no visibility decline and an overall visibility improvement (40 CFR 51.308(e)(3)); or (3) demonstrate greater reasonable progress “based on the clear weight of evidence” (40 CFR 51.308(2)(i)(E)). Option 2 is the two-prong test used in this SIP proposal, but any of the three demonstrations can establish a BART Alternative. *See WildEarth Guardians v. EPA*, 770 F.3d 919, 933-35 (10th Cir. 2014).

In each previous regional haze SIP for NO<sub>x</sub>, Utah has offered separate analyses to support the existing controls as satisfying BART requirements. In 2012, EPA disapproved Utah’s NO<sub>x</sub> BART determination on the basis of the analysis, not on Utah’s conclusion. *See Approval, Disapproval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; State of Utah; Regional Haze Rule Requirements for Mandatory Class I Areas under 40 C.F.R. § 51.309*, 77 Fed. Reg. 74,355, 74,357; 74,363 (Dec. 14, 2012), corrected 78 Fed. Reg. 4341 (Jan. 22, 2013). In 2015, Utah submitted a weight-of-evidence demonstration as an alternative to BART. This approach resulted in a dispute between Utah and EPA as to how each factor should be weighed. EPA concluded, on the basis of one factor only, that Utah’s SIP was not “clearly better than BART” and as a result disapproved the SIP and imposed a BART FIP. *See Approval, Disapproval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Air Quality Implementation Plans and Federal Implementation Plan; Utah; Revisions to Regional Haze State Implementation Plan; Federal Implementation Plan for Regional Haze; Final Rule*, 81 Fed. Reg. 43,894, 43,898-899 (July 5, 2016).

Until now, Utah has never submitted a two-prong demonstration. Therefore, EPA has never made any “prior findings” related to the current NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative or rejected this demonstration, because Utah has never before submitted a SIP under the two-prong BART Alternative Test under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3). Therefore, the commenters’ “across the board” comparison to previous SIP submittals is not accurate, given that each test differs. This is so regardless of the fact that Utah has always maintained that the currently-installed NO<sub>x</sub> controls meet regional haze program requirements for improving visibility. Moreover, nothing in the regional haze program precludes a state from submitting a new, more detailed analysis to support a conclusion the state reached in a previous SIP submittal, even if EPA had disapproved that same conclusion based on a state’s earlier analysis. As EPA itself has said when it issued its FIP for NO<sub>x</sub>, the opposite is true and “the State retains its authority to submit a revised state plan consistent with CAA and Regional Haze Rule (RHR) requirements.” 81 Fed. Reg. at 43,893. EPA further explained that “[a]n approvable SIP submission will result in the modification or withdrawal of the FIP.” *Id.*

In addition, commenters seem to overlook that the visibility program only requires reasonable progress over time, not immediate improvement at any cost or for reasons unrelated to visibility. The commenters ignore the lengthy history of previous SIPs and the current SIP. Utah has already required PacifiCorp to undertake numerous costly pollution control upgrades. The NO<sub>x</sub> limits imposed on the Hunter and Huntington units are more stringent than EPA’s presumptive NO<sub>x</sub> BART limits in 40 CFR Part 51 Appendix Y(IV)(E)(5). *See SIP Section XX.D(6)(d)*. The only question for the Board’s consideration is whether those existing upgrades meet the two-prong test.

Because EPA has since recognized that a refined modeling demonstration may support the state's earlier imposition of controls for NO<sub>x</sub>, EPA asked the court to pause the litigation over the SIP and did not oppose a stay on the imposition of the FIP. See EPA's Reply in Supp. of its Mot. to Hold Cases in Abeyance Pending Agency Reconsideration of Final Rule, ECF. No. 90, *Utah v. EPA*, No. 16-9541 (Sept. 1, 2017). EPA would have no reason to support a refined modeling demonstration if it did not believe that the state's SIP could show that the existing emission control requirements satisfy the two-prong test.

Utah has worked with EPA on this approach, which EPA acknowledged to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in the most recent status report filed on March 11, 2019. See Status Report by EPA at 4, ECF. No. 113, *Utah v. EPA*, No. 16-9541 (March 11, 2019) (“ . . . EPA has continued to engage in discussions regarding additional technical analyses that are likely to inform its reconsideration of the Final Rule. These technical analyses include new air quality model simulations using a state-of-the-science model and methodologies. The modeling exercise has been completed, and EPA has been working with the State of Utah as it incorporates the results of the technical analyses into a new State Implementation Plan submission.”).

Utah is now submitting a revised SIP with the new demonstration showing that current NO<sub>x</sub> controls meet the relevant test under 40 CFR § 51.308(e)(3). Consequently, characterizing the proposed plan as a “do-nothing” SIP is inaccurate, because based on new data, the SIP shows that the objectives of the regional haze program are being met. Commenters apparently (and incorrectly) assume that the SIP must impose some new requirement, when in fact the purpose of the SIP is simply to demonstrate that the state is on track to meet the statutory requirement of achieving natural visibility conditions by 2064. Because the analysis supporting this SIP shows that will occur with existing controls, no new controls are required.

## Technical Merits of the Dispersion Modeling

**6)** [Utah Association of Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS)] The 2017 SIP Revision comes as a result of litigation between EPA and PacifiCorp, the State, and UAMPS which has been held in abeyance since September 2017. Utah is submitting this SIP revision as a technical amendment that provides additional air modeling data and analysis supporting the Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> which the Board approved in 2015. The additional modeling conclusively demonstrates that the Utah BART Alternative provides greater visibility improvement than the EPA imposed FIP.

**Response:** As requested by EPA, staff worked with PacifiCorp, a professional consulting firm, and EPA to refine and use the Comprehensive Air Quality Model with extensions (CAMx) to evaluate whether the BART alternative provided greater reasonable progress than the EPA's FIP. CAMx is a photochemical grid model that EPA prefers for its ability to more accurately measure visibility impacts. See Revisions to the Guidelines on the Air Quality Models: Enhancements to the AERMOD Dispersion Modeling System and Incorporation of Approaches To Address Ozone and Fine Particulate Matter, 82 Fed. Reg. 5,182, 5,194-96 (Jan. 17, 2017). “

7) [Conservation Organizations] The commenters argue that Utah’s modeling assumptions were flawed and resulted in overstating future emissions under the BART FIP scenario. Commenters argue that this alleged error in turn resulted in underestimating visibility improvements resulting from BART FIP when compared to the BART alternative proposed by Utah in this rulemaking. According to the commenters, the future emissions under BART FIP were overstated in two ways. First, the modeling did not take into consideration that Hunter Unit 3 controls installed in 2007 would continue to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> and these reductions should have been included in the FIP scenario. Second, the modeling did not account for lower SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from Carbon units because those units would have had to comply with MATS if they continued to operate.

**Response:** As required by the Regional Haze Rule, the emissions controls that were included in the BART alternative took place during the first planning period. 40 C.F.R. § 51.308(e)(2)(iii). Because the purpose of this SIP revision is solely to provide technical documentation for the BART Alternative for the first planning period, it is only appropriate to use the surplus emissions required by that same SIP for the modeled BART alternative.

A BART analysis in EPA’s FIP cannot legally use emission reductions from non-BART units—Hunter Unit 3 and Carbon units. This is clear from the regulatory requirements for an alternative measure, where a state must demonstrate that the alternative “will achieve greater reasonable progress than would have resulted from the installation and operation of BART *at all sources subject to BART* in the State and covered by the alternative program.” 40 C.F.R. § 51.308(e)(2)(i) (emphasis added). BART analysis is a top-down analysis *for specific BART units only* that begins with identifying all available retrofit options and then narrowing the list down based on technical feasibility, effectiveness of the feasible technologies, costs of compliance, energy impacts, non-air quality environmental impacts, remaining useful life of the existing controls, and visibility impacts. 40 C.F.R. Pt. 51, Appx. Y, IV.D. By law, sources that are not subject to BART cannot be included in the BART scenario and Utah properly excluded those from EPA’s BART FIP for purposes of conducting dispersion modeling.

In the stayed BART FIP for NO<sub>x</sub>, EPA applied Appendix Y BART guidelines and imposed SCR controls on Hunter Units 1 and 2 and Huntington Units 1 and 2. *See* 81 Fed. Reg. at 43,902-43,907. While Utah disagrees with the results of the FIP BART analysis, it agrees that BART should only be applied to these BART-eligible units. Any other emission reductions from non-BART sources could only be considered as part of the alternative analysis.

8) [PacifiCorp] Utah’s BART Alternative Properly Includes Reductions from the Closure of the Carbon power plant. Under EPA’s regional haze program, alternatives to Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) requirements can include emissions reductions from other Clean Air Act programs that occur after the baseline date, and from sources not covered by the BART requirements. *See* 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iv). In fact, EPA has approved this approach numerous times. *See, e.g.,* Arizona, 82 FR 19333, 19343 (“As noted by ADEQ, all of the emission reductions required by the Coronado BART Alternative are surplus to reductions resulting from measures applicable to Coronado as of 2002. Therefore, we propose to find that the Coronado BART Alternative complies with 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iv)”); Connecticut, 79 FR 39322, 39325 (approving Conn.’s demonstration that programs

already developed by the State would provide greater reasonable progress in visibility than source by source BART); Idaho, 79 FR 23273, 23276 (allowing the shutdown of certain non-BART equipment to be credited in a BART Alternative); Indiana, 77 FR 34218, 34219 (taking credit for reductions from a non-BART source to replace BART requirements at two BART sources as part of a BART Alternative); Massachusetts, 78 FR 57487, 57490-91(allowing existing state programs to act as a BART Alternative); Washington, 79 FR 33438, 33441-42 (taking credit for reductions due to PSD requirements as “surplus emissions” for a BART Alternative)( “the EPA has determined and confirmed with modeling that the reductions resulting from the now federally enforceable requirement to operate the FGD system result in greater reasonable progress towards meeting natural visibility conditions than the NOX controls that the EPA determined to be BART.”); Wyoming, 83 FR 51403, 51412 (approving the Basin settlement based on additional SO<sub>2</sub> reductions as part of the BART Alternative in lieu of EPA’s FIP).

These emissions reductions are referred to in the rule as “surplus emissions.” Here, Utah has proposed a BART Alternative that properly includes reductions from the agreed upon closure of the Carbon plant in 2015. While the Carbon plant faced challenges to its operations due to the MATS rule, that rule was eventually overturned by the United States Supreme Court. See *Michigan v. EPA*, 135 S.Ct. 2699 (2015). Recognizing that the MATS rule was in the process of being challenged, PacifiCorp nonetheless committed to the closure of the Carbon power plant as part of the BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub>. Therefore, there is no doubt that the emissions reductions from the closure of the Carbon power plant are part of Utah’s BART Alternative and have no tie to EPA’s FIP.

Further, even if PacifiCorp closed the plant due to the MATS rule, the emissions reductions are still available for credit in a BART Alternative. Because the emissions reductions from the closure of the Carbon plant occurred after the baseline date (here 2002), and were due to a Clean Air Act program (here either MATS or regional haze), then the “surplus emissions” from the Carbon closure are allowed as part of the BART Alternative. Moreover, EPA has previously approved the use of emissions reductions from the closure of the Carbon plant towards the BART Alternative proposal. See EPA Docket No. EPA-R08-OAR-2015-0463, Response to Comments, p.59, (June 1, 2016).

**Response:** DAQ worked closely with EPA in developing the BART alternative, including the decision to consider emissions reductions from the Carbon Power Plan. Staff agrees with this comment.

9) [PacifiCorp] A modeling protocol (AECOM, 2018) for the CAMx analysis was negotiated with and agreed to by Utah and EPA in February 2018. EPA was very active in the design of the CAMx modeling protocol, requiring certain changes and modifications to the proposed methods. The CAMx modeling analysis appropriately used the Western Air Quality Modeling Study (WAQS) modeling platform, which is a publicly available platform intended to facilitate air resource analyses in the western United States. The CAMx system was configured using the WAQS configuration settings to simulate future-year 2025 visibility conditions for different modeling scenarios.

To convert model concentrations to visibility estimates and account for quantifiable model bias, the EPA’s Software for Model Attainment Test – Community Edition (SMAT-CE) was used. All models are affected by biases; i.e., model results are a simplification of natural phenomena and, as such, model

results over- or under-estimate true conditions. The use of SMAT-CE helps mitigate model bias by pairing model estimates with actual measured conditions. By using the Particulate Source Apportionment Technology tool in conjunction with SMAT-CE, this modeling effort estimates PacifiCorp's power plants' visibility impacts for each model scenario in a realistic manner. The Utah SIP scenario SMAT-CE visibility estimates were compared to the Baseline and EPA FIP scenarios to determine which has the least impact on visibility.

**Response:** DAQ worked closely with EPA and AECOM in developing and evaluating the modeling for the SIP revision. Staff agrees with this comment.

**10)** [Conservation Organizations] The commenters claim that CAMx modeling should follow a certain protocol.

**Response:** There is no set protocol that CAMx modeling must follow. Instead, the protocol is developed in consultation and collaboration with EPA. In this rulemaking, the modeling protocol developed by DAQ and AECOM/Ramboll was done in close consultation with EPA prior to the consultant running the modeling analysis.

**11)** [Conservation Organizations] The CAMx modeling uses flawed baseline emissions assumptions. One of the primary reasons PacifiCorp's CAMx modeling is flawed is because it modeled the 2001-2003 baseline emissions scenario relative to the 2011 (2009-2013 average) IMPROVE data, and yet the modeling scenarios do not reflect the emissions control systems that were in place and reflected in the 2011 IMPROVE data. Several of the Hunter and Huntington units made SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> reductions between 2003 and 2011 which are already reflected in the IMPROVE data (including the Hunter Unit 3 NO<sub>x</sub> controls installed in 2007, the Huntington Unit 2 new SO<sub>2</sub> scrubber and NO<sub>x</sub> combustion controls installed in 2006, the Huntington Unit 1 SO<sub>2</sub> scrubber upgrade and the NO<sub>x</sub> combustion controls installed in 2010, and to some extent the Hunter Unit 2 SO<sub>2</sub> scrubber upgrade and NO<sub>x</sub> combustion controls installed in spring 2011).

**Response:** The modeling procedures were conducted in accordance with the Regional Haze Rule. The Regional Haze Rule (RHR) first decadal review's convention was that the baseline emissions reflecting a 3-year period during the 2000-2004 RHR baseline period should be used in the modeling. The best available modeling platform for CAMx is the year 2011, for which the meteorological conditions and the associated IMPROVE observations should be used. The Intermountain West Data Warehouse – Western Air Quality Study (IWDW-WAQS) performed CAMx photochemical grid modeling for the year 2011 using a comprehensive set of state-of-science model inputs (e.g., biogenic emissions, meteorology, chemistry, geography). The IWDW-WAQS modeling was developed in collaboration between Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming, U.S. EPA, and federal land managers. The 2011 IWDW-WAQS modeling platform provides the best suite of model inputs for Utah visibility modeling.

The 2011 modeling platform was used because at the time was the most recent CAMx platform for the western US. Since a platform from an earlier time period (i.e. 2002) does not exist, the modeling is an investigation of the effects of emissions from the 'past' into more current times. Since all other

emissions sources have been generally reduced the modeling is more conservative and consistent by using emissions of a Baseline period in a cleaner background.

No matter which year is used to select the 20% best and worst haze days, the emission differences between the BART Alternative and Baseline scenarios are the same. While there has been a reduction of haze between 2002 and 2011, the natural conditions contributing to haze have not changed significantly, and we would expect a similar seasonal distribution of haze effects between the two periods.

A similar approach has been used in the EPA-approved final rule associated with the Laramie River Station BART alternative CAMx modeling (see 84 FR 22711; May 20, 2019).

**12)** [Conservation Organizations] The CAMx modeling fails to account for seasonality in emissions.

**Response:** The comment suggests that the temporal profiles used for modeling PacifiCorp plant emissions are not representative of present-day emissions from the PacifiCorp plants. The year-to-year variability in plant emissions is high. However, the modeling should be based on temporal profiles that are representative over many different conditions. Using the average over a twelve year (2001 - 2012) period to smooth over high inter-annual variability provides a set of robust emissions profiles that can be reasonably extrapolated to a future period when day-to-day emission totals are obviously unknown. The commenter states:

*“Over the past 3 years, there has been strong seasonality in heat input and SO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> emissions at these coal units, with prominent peaks in the summer and winter.”*

There isn't enough detail provided in the comment to support this statement or explain why a recent period of 3 years (2016 - 2018?) would better represent a past or future (i.e., the projected model year 2025) time period.

The comments are inconsistent in various areas in that they fault the time between the 2001-2003 baseline period that is prescribed for BART modeling versus the best available 2011 modeling platform, and then there is a concern that a recent emissions trend should also be taken into account. The modeling approach taken, consistent with an approved protocol, appropriately utilizes the RHR baseline period emissions and the modeling platform year. Any change to the seasonality of emissions in recent years is an issue for the next decadal review of the RHR.

**13)** [Conservation Organizations] In evaluating the “worst” days, the CAMx modeling contradicted EPA’s January 10, 2017 revisions to the Regional Haze Rule that redefined impairment for purposes of tracking visibility progress. Under the 82 Fed. Reg. 3,078 (Jan. 10, 2017, which updated 40 CFR 51.301, “[m]ost impaired days means the twenty percent of monitored days in a calendar year with the highest amounts of anthropogenic visibility impairment.” Under this current regulation, Utah should have substituted its prior understanding of the 20% “worst” days with an analysis for the 20% of days in a calendar year “with the highest amount of anthropogenic visibility impairment.”

**Response:** The current BART NO<sub>x</sub> alternative SIP is for the first planning period that ended in 2018. This SIP is created under the regulations applicable during this first planning period. EPA issued the 2017 Regional Haze Rule revisions in January of 2017 with an updated definition of “20 percent most impaired days” cited by the Conservation Organizations. See 82 Fed. Reg. 3,078 (codified in 40 C.F.R. § 51.301). EPA’s technical guidance for the second planning period says that this revised definition must be applied by the states “*in the second and future implementation periods*” by selecting “20 percent most impaired days each year at each Class I area based on daily anthropogenic impairment.” Technical Guidance on Tracking Visibility Progress for the Second Implementation Period of the Regional Haze Program at 2 (Dec. 20, 2018) (emphasis added), available at [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-12/documents/technical\\_guidance\\_tracking\\_visibility\\_progress.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-12/documents/technical_guidance_tracking_visibility_progress.pdf) (last visited on May 24, 2019). For the current NO<sub>x</sub> BART alternative, 40 C.F.R. § 51.308(e)(3) requires the use of “the worst and best 20 percent of days” metric and the old definition of the most impaired days in 40 C.F.R. § 51.301 remains applicable during the first planning period.

Additionally, in 2018 EPA announced that it will be revisiting certain aspects of the 2017 Regional Haze rule and will be proposing a rulemaking when it identifies all the issues subject to review. See EPA’s Decision to Revisit Aspects of the 2017 Regional Haze Rule Revisions, available at <https://www.epa.gov/visibility/epas-decision-revisit-aspects-2017-regional-haze-rule-revisions> (last visited on June 3, 2019); see also Memorandum on Regional Haze Reform Roadmap at 3, available at <https://www.epa.gov/visibility/epa-releases-regional-haze-reform-roadmap> (last visited on June 3, 2019). Consequently, 2017 Regional Haze Rule revisions in their current format may not even be applicable during the second planning period.

**14)** [Conservation Organizations] The model performance evaluation of PacifiCorp’s CAMx model found an under-prediction of nitrates and an over-prediction of sulfates. Based on Utah’s calculations, the EPA’s NO<sub>x</sub> BART FIP would result in less tons per year of NO<sub>x</sub> than the BART Alternative. However, if PacifiCorp’s CAMx model under-predicts nitrate formation and over-predicts sulfate formation in the Colorado Plateau Class I areas, then the CAMx modeling results would inaccurately show less of a visibility benefit from the NO<sub>x</sub> BART FIP than it would show from Utah’s proposed BART Alternative.

The use of Particulate Source Apportionment Technology (PSAT) to track changes in sulfate when both SO<sub>2</sub> emissions and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are different in each of the modeling scenarios. Mr. Gebhart states “[t]he reality is that PSAT overestimates the actual ambient sulfate that can be tied to the Carbon/Hunter/Huntington source emissions.” Between PacifiCorp’s CAMx modeling under-predicting nitrate and over-predicting sulfate and the PSAT technique also overestimating the true sulfate contribution of an individual source, it seems very likely that Utah’s CAMx model will inaccurately predict greater benefits of the BART Alternative than it would of the BART FIP.

**Response:** This comment does not appropriately account for adjustments in the modeling procedures to address the initial findings that nitrate haze was under-predicted during certain periods. The adjustments that were made included:

1. Increased ammonia through the northern lateral boundary conditions of the 4-km domain, and

2. A decrease in the ammonia deposition velocity rates.

These combined changes, as documented in the final CAMx modeling report, led to significantly higher concentrations, such that nitrate and ammonium showed slight over-predictions for certain months.

Additionally, the entire section of the Gebhart Technical Comments “Computational Errors Introduced by PSAT” is a misinterpretation of Koo et al. 2009 paper work and conclusions. Koo never claims that “errors are introduced into the sulfate calculations in particular because PSAT fails to account for indirect effects that influence sulfate formation” and also in no statement concludes that PSAT tends to overestimate sulfate formation compared with BFM. What Koo states is that “With 100% reduction in the point source SO<sub>2</sub> emissions, PSAT shows excellent agreement with the BFM in July, while exhibiting slight overestimation in February when oxidant-limiting effects are more important. “ Furthermore Koo states that “Neither PSAT nor first-order sensitivities provide an ideal method to relate PM components to sources. PSAT is best at apportioning sulfate, nitrate, and ammonium to sources emitting SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and NH<sub>3</sub>, respectively. PSAT is also better at estimating the impact on PM concentrations of removing all emissions from a source rather than removing a fraction of the emissions.”

The commenter states that: “Since PSAT apportions sulfate to the primary precursor emission (SO<sub>2</sub>), the PSAT method works best when addressing changes in a single precursor pollutant. However, in the SIP amendments analysis, both SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions change and PSAT fails to account for the potential influence of the change in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions on the sulfate concentrations assigned to the source.” This statement is simply incorrect. PSAT was designed to track the sulfate formation from multiple sources and chemical components. This is, in fact, one of the strengths of both the probing tool and CAMx, its ability to consider non-linear formation due to chemistry and aerosol processes when more than one type of emission source changes. Commenters provide no study to support this claim. However, there is ample precedent in the use of CAMx PSAT to understand the sources of multiple pollutants at various receptors.

**15)** [Conservation Organizations] PacifiCorp’s modeling counts the modeled visibility benefits multiple times when calculating the average visibility benefit across all Class I areas (e.g., for those Class I areas where one IMPROVE monitor is used to represent more than two Class I areas, PacifiCorp counted the modeled visibility benefits twice in determining average visibility benefits across all Class I areas). Rather than relying on proxy results that cannot even be representative for a given Class I area, PacifiCorp’s modeling should have used site-specific visibility data available from the CAMx model to more accurately represent impacts at Class I areas that lack IMPROVE monitors.

**Response:** For Class I areas where there is not an IMPROVE monitor, a nearby monitor is designated as being representative. A list of these approved designations is available in Appendix A-2 “Guidance for tracking Progress Under the Regional Haze Rule”

([http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t1/memoranda/rh\\_tpurhr\\_gd.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t1/memoranda/rh_tpurhr_gd.pdf)), as noted in the CAMx report.

It also important to note that the visibility assessment occurs as a post processing step to the model and is performed with the SMAT tool. This procedure is routine and was agreed upon by EPA as part of the modeling protocol. Many of the criticisms such as monitor selection, using the modeling centered on

IMPROVE data, etc., are a consequence of using SMAT not of using CAMx. SMAT provides a way to standardize and reproduce the visibility calculations and other models could be provided to get these estimates (CMAQ). The 'double counting' is entirely due to how SMAT calculates visibility design values. The study presented here followed fairly standard and approved procedures that followed EPA guidelines. It is possible to implement some of the calculation the reviewer points out, for instance manually calculate the RRF outside of SMAT but this would have deviated from the EPA guidelines. It is important to note that it is correct that the model provides PM concentrations every 4 km at each grid cell but the limitations on the visibility calculation are related to the correct used of relative humidity factors that change for every Class I area where there are IMPROVE monitors, and is not a limitation to CAMx itself.

**16)** [Conservation Organizations] Modeling done with CALPUFF that more properly models the emissions that would occur under the BART FIP scenario clearly demonstrates that the BART FIP would result in greater visibility improvements than the BART alternative.

**Response:** Unlike CAMx, CALPUFF is no longer an EPA-approved model for Regional Haze SIP visibility modeling. The decision to omit CALPUFF was finalized by EPA last year. The CALPUFF version that was EPA-approved for regional haze planning is now considered outdated and over-simplified, in terms of chemistry and physics, compared to Utah's CAMx model. EPA has stated that CAMx has a scientifically current treatment of chemistry to simulate transformation of emissions into visibility-impairing particles and its use for modeling cumulative air quality impacts in the U.S., including for regional haze SIPs, is well-established; *See* 84 Fed. Reg. 22,711. CAMx has been used in several previous EPA assessments for evaluating greater reasonable progress. *See id.* It is also worth mentioning that more recent versions of CALPUFF are not EPA-approved for *any* regional haze planning. *See* Use of Photochemical Grid Models for Single-Source Ozone and secondary PM<sub>2.5</sub> impacts for Permit Program Related Assessments and for NAAQS Attainment Demonstrations for Ozone, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and Regional Haze, Aug 4, 2017, [https://www3.epa.gov/ttn/scram/guidance/clarification/20170804-Photochemical\\_Grid\\_Model\\_Clarification\\_Memo.pdf](https://www3.epa.gov/ttn/scram/guidance/clarification/20170804-Photochemical_Grid_Model_Clarification_Memo.pdf).

**17)** [PacifiCorp] Utah and PacifiCorp desired to resolve their legal differences with EPA about the BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub>, and engaged EPA in settlement discussions. As a result of these discussions, Utah and PacifiCorp agreed to review the BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> under a different section of the regional haze rule that is more straightforward, and to do additional, updated computerized modeling to show the merits of the BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> proposal. To demonstrate that the SIP had greater visibility benefits than the FIP, and in consultation with EPA, PacifiCorp retained a consultant, AECOM, to perform additional dispersion modeling of Utah's SIP and EPA's FIP using the Comprehensive Air Quality Model with extensions (CAMx). EPA has referred to Utah's updated CAMx modeling effort as one using a "state of the science model and methodologies." *See* Attachment A, Status Report by EPA, March 11, 2019.

CAMx is a photochemical grid model with the capabilities to estimate the concentrations of pollutants that contribute to regional haze. CAMx has a technical formulation that is considered more realistic than that of CALPUFF, and CAMx predicts more accurate changes in light extinction as a result of changes in

emissions from PacifiCorp power plants. Given the disagreements between EPA, on the one hand, and PacifiCorp and the State of Utah, on the other hand, over the previous CALPUFF modeling results for EPA's FIP and the BART Alternative, it made sense to perform additional CAMx modeling to provide additional visibility impact information to resolve those disagreements.

**Response:** DAQ worked closely with EPA, PacifiCorp, and AECOM in developing and evaluating the modeling for the SIP revision, including the merits of CALPUFF and CAMx. Staff agrees with this comment.

**18)** [Conservation Organizations] The CAMx modeling and determination of average visibility benefit included Class I areas beyond 300 kilometers from the Carbon, Hunter, and Huntington power plants. In concluding greater average visibility improvement across all modeled Class I areas, Utah afforded equal weight to areas near and distant from the pollution sources even though there is higher confidence in the CAMx modeling at sites within 300 kilometers of the sources. Furthermore, PacifiCorp included certain areas (e.g. San Pedro Parks WA) farther than 500km from the sources, while apparently omitting others a similar distance away. The commenters argue that the Class I areas used in modeling were selected arbitrarily and without justification. Consequently, Utah's technical analysis does not account for visibility impacts "over all affected Class I areas," as required by 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3)(ii).

**Response:** Under previous modeling of the BART alternative, Utah used a smaller modeling domain of 300 km that included nine Class I areas. This was considered adequate at the time to address "all affected Class I areas." The updated modeling submitted as this SIP revision enlarged the modeling domain to include 15 Class I areas in the region. Additional analysis shows that removing the additional six Class I areas from the analysis does not affect the outcome of the model and the BART alternative still passes the two-prong test. Weighing of one Class I area over another is not allowed under the Regional Haze Rule. In fact, the second prong of the two-prong test requires "that average differences between BART and the alternative" be compared without regard to distance from the source. The average differences are also compared "across **all** affected Class I areas," 84 Fed. Reg. 22, 711, 22,713 (May 20, 2019) (emphasis added), i.e. the areas are not weighed one against another.

The commenter did not identify which Class I areas were left out of the modeling domain that would be affected. All Class I areas within the 728 km x 596 km modeling domain were used in the analysis. Further, Staff worked closely with EPA in developing a modeling domain that included "all affected Class I areas." *Id.* Please refer to Appendix A of the Staff Review for additional details.

**19)** [PacifiCorp] CAMx is a three-dimensional photochemical grid air quality modeling program designed to address pollution impacts over a range of geographic scales, meteorology, and time periods using inputs from weather prediction models. See <http://www.camx.com/about/faq.aspx>. For regional haze, CAMx works by modeling interactions between the precursors and pollutants that contribute to the haze and using inputs for the specific area and sources being modeled. CAMx is especially effective for modeling larger impact areas that involve pollutant transportation over 50 kilometers or more. See EPA 2028 Regional Haze Modeling Technical Support Document.

EPA has found CAMx “well suited for the purpose of estimating long-range impacts of secondary pollutants, such as PM<sub>2.5</sub>, that contribute to regional haze . . .” 82 Fed. Reg. at 5196; see also 5194, note 23 (citing numerous studies validating CAMx and similar models). While the use of CALPUFF may be appropriate in some instances and EPA continues to allow its use on a limited basis, CAMx is now one of EPA’s preferred models for regional haze. As EPA explains, CAMx is one of the most appropriate models for regional haze where Class I areas are fairly distant from the multiple sources being evaluated, meaning that long-range transport is involved:

CAMx has a scientifically current treatment of chemistry . . . and is often employed in large-scale modeling when many sources of pollution and/or long transport distances are involved. Photochemical grid models like CAMx include all emissions sources and have realistic representations of formation, transport, and removal processes of the particulate matter that causes visibility degradation (EPA, 82 Fed. Reg. 19333, 19338-39).

EPA has approved CAMx modeling for at least six regional haze planning organizations (including the WRAP organization for the region including Utah) as well as for BART determinations in Arizona, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. See 81 FR 296, Jan. 5, 2016 (Texas/Oklahoma BART determination); 82 Fed. Reg. 46903, 46909-11, Oct. 10, 2017 (Arizona BART determination); 84 Fed. Reg. 11697, 11701 (Arkansas SIP approval including updated BART determinations); see also 83 Fed. Reg. 62204, 62235, Nov. 30, 2018 (Arkansas BART updates and discussion of CAMx).

The chemical transport capabilities of CAMx are more appropriate and accurate than the CALPUFF model for Utah because all of the Class I areas at issue are more than 50 kilometers from the Hunter and Huntington facilities. EPA recently moved away from CALPUFF as one of its preferred models for future regional haze analyses in part based on problems predicting long range transport outcomes. 82 Fed. Reg. at 5196. Although CALPUFF may still be used in BART determinations for regional haze, and is helpful when conducting an analysis between past and current CALPUFF analyses, CAMx is more useful here given the location of the Class I areas and the limitations of the specific CALPUFF modeling used here by EPA for its FIP (no consideration of the margin of error, wrong ammonia background number, and ignoring relevant wind trajectory information). The new CAMx modeling results therefore provide more accurate visibility information.

EPA has a duty to determine the “degree of improvement in visibility which may reasonably be anticipated to result” from the control technologies it requires through the regional haze program. 42 U.S.C. § 7491(g)(2) (emphasis added). To comply with this requirement, Utah and EPA jointly determined that CAMx should be used to supplement the visibility analysis for the FIP and BART Alternative, and to put in context existing CALPUFF model results. EPA has a longstanding policy which allows states to use different air quality models, including photochemical grid models like CAMx, if they work in consultation with the appropriate EPA office. See 40 CFR § Pt. 51, App. W, § 3.0 (“The model that most accurately estimates concentrations in the area of interest is always sought.”). EPA recommends that states work cooperatively with EPA if another model is more appropriate for their regional haze and BART analyses. 80 Fed. Reg. at 45350; see also 82 Fed. Reg. 46903, 46911, Oct. 10, 2017 (“as a result of recent developments in modeling techniques, the EPA and states have begun to use

photochemical models such as CAMx to assess the visibility impacts from individual sources”). This is what occurred in Utah. PacifiCorp supports the use of CAMx modeling as an additional source of information because the CALPUFF modeling previously produced some inconsistent results.

**Response:** DAQ worked closely with EPA, PacifiCorp, and AECOM in developing and evaluating the modeling for the SIP revision, including the merits of CALPUFF versus CAMx. Staff agrees with this comment.

### **Comments Regarding the Modeling Platform and Analysis**

Staff worked closely with Ramboll and AECOM, the consultants who calibrated and performed the modeling, to respond to more technical comments made in a report submitted by D. Howard Gebhart. The responses to these modeling comments are below.

#### **Introduction**

This document provides a response to the technical comments by Howard Gebhart. It is beneficial to revisit the methodology described in detail in the final report before addressing specific comments by Howard Gebhart.

The determination of final visibility estimates for each of the scenarios modeled relies on the Software for Model Attainment Test (SMAT) tool that implements the USEPA recommended steps to calculate changes in visibility at Class I areas.

Photochemical grid models such as CAMx or CMAQ require a substantial amount of data: meteorology, boundary conditions from global models and emissions from all types of sources: mobile, area, biogenics, etc. This dataset is what we refer in the report as the “modeling platform.” As described in the modeling protocol for this application, the latest available modeling platform at the time of the study was the 2011 Western Air Quality Study (WAQS) modeling platform. The selection of the modeling years is therefore tied to the data availability and is not intended to be arbitrary. However, the analysis intended is for the level of emissions for the PacifiCorp power plants to be re-examined in accordance with the first decadal review of the Regional Haze.

EPA has stipulated in the formulation of the CAMx modeling protocol that the typical year modeling needs to use the 2001-2003 PacifiCorp emissions. Then, the future year emissions with two alternative PacifiCorp scenarios are used to determine the improvement from the baseline emissions case.

If it were available, a more desirable approach would have been to rely on a 2002 typical year modeling platform that reflects 2002 global emissions. However, such a modeling platform is simply not available, and the presence of lower global emissions in 2011 with the best available modeling platform merely assists in better determining the relative improvement in haze between the two alternative cases being assessed relative to the Regional Haze Rule baseline for the PacifiCorp plants being evaluated.

The most important aspect of the analysis is to evaluate the relative impacts between the two future year scenarios, and the typical year is only ancillary to the analysis to provide the best available modeling platform. Furthermore, the calculation of the relative response factors (RRF) is completely

independent to the visibility design values established by the IMPROVE monitoring data (averages from 2009 to 2013). The RRF are not a difference, but rather a ratio of model results for particulate matter (PM) simulations:

$RRF = PM(\text{future year}) / PM(\text{typical year})$ .

This equation makes it clear that the typical year data is common and identical to all the future year scenarios, while the PM (future year) will change for each of the future year scenarios. It is also important to note that the PacifiCorp emissions are simply added to all other emissions being simulated, which are referenced to 2011 conditions, so the modeling results are a function of all worldwide emissions, and the differences (which we are focusing upon) occur due to changes only in the PacifiCorp emissions. In the comparison among all future scenarios, we use the same averaging of IMPROVE measurements from 2009-2013, so all the future year simulations are compared under the same basis, with the only differences being the level of emissions for PacifiCorp power plants.

### Responses to Specific Comments

**20)** [from Gebhart report, page 3] The most fundamental technical deficiency is the emissions information used by Utah for the “typical year” scenario. The “typical year” emissions scenario forms a reference case to which the other emission modeling scenarios are evaluated using CAMx. In essence, the modeled change in concentrations of visibility precursors for each future emissions case (Baseline, EPA FIP, and Utah SIP) are compared to the reference case and the future visibility for each case is then calculated by assuming that the same percentage change also occurs in the historical IMPROVE measurements. In the Utah SIP CAMx modeling, the “typical year” is 2011 and the IMPROVE data is taken from the five year average centered on 2011 (2009-2013 average).

**Response:** As stated in the introductory discussion above, it is correct that the RRF for each future emissions scenario relies on the modeling for the typical year, but importantly, this is common and identical for all those scenarios. Furthermore, the important comparison for this analysis is not between the future scenarios and the typical year, but the final visibility estimates between the two future scenarios. In this case, the typical year is only ancillary data that allows to a comparison in a relative basis; that is, we are interested in how the model responds to the changes in emissions and not the absolute concentrations. Notice that in Appendix D of the Final Report, additional visibility assessments were performed with the SMAT tool centered on completely different ranges of IMPROVE measurements: 2007 to 2011 and 2011 to 2015. In all cases tested, the PacifiCorp alternative leads to better visibility improvement than the USEPA FIP. This demonstrates two things: 1) the results are relatively insensitive to the selection of the IMPROVE data ranges, and 2) what is important is to look at the results in a *relative* basis.

**21)** [from Gebhart report, page 3] The CAMx modeling report prepared by AECOM & Ramboll (Reference 1) indicates that the emissions for the typical year scenario (2011) were based on the 2011 WAQS platform, except that emissions at the three PacifiCorp Plants (Carbon, Hunter, and Huntington) were modeled using the average emissions for the 2001-2003 baseline period. There is no explanation

in Reference 1 as to why the 2011 reference case was modeled with the 2001-2003 baseline period emissions at Carbon, Hunter, and Huntington.

**Response:** The PacifiCorp 2001-2003 baseline emissions (consistent with the Regional Haze Rule), added to all of the other global 2011 emissions as directed by EPA in the modeling protocol negotiations, are simply used as a reference point to determine the amount of visibility improvement that is modeled for either of the alternative cases being compared: the USEPA FIP and the Utah SIP. The final report explains in detail that the 2011 modeling platform represents the best available and most representative tool for assessing the difference in visibility improvement among the different emissions alternatives. Compared to the previous CALPUFF modeling approach used in the initial review of these alternative cases, the use of CAMx and the 2011 modeling platform is a far superior modeling approach. The emissions of the PacifiCorp power plant correctly reflect the level of emissions of the first decadal review which is based on 2001-2003 Regional Haze Rule baseline period. The analysis compares the formation of particulate from the power plants under the same atmospheric and chemical conditions and focuses upon the relative values among all scenarios as opposed to the absolute deciviews as a result of the modeling.

**22)** [from Gebhart report, pages 3-4] In the interval between the baseline period and the typical year, PacifiCorp installed significant emissions control improvements at both Hunter and Huntington. These emissions control improvements are summarized in Table 1. Table 2 lists the 2010-2012 average emissions at Hunter and Huntington and compares these emissions to the 2001-2003 baseline period modeled for the 2011 reference year by Utah. The emissions shown in Table 2 were extracted from the EPA Air Markets Program Data (<https://ampd.epa.gov/ampd>). The 2010-2012 emissions would be the proper emissions to use when modeling Hunter and Huntington for the 2011 reference year case.

The Hunter and Huntington emission controls are important because the associated impact of such controls on visibility conditions in Class I areas in Utah and neighboring states would already be reflected in the 2009-13 five-year average IMPROVE data used in the CAMx modeling. This is especially true for the Huntington Unit 2 emissions, where a substantial reduction in SO<sub>2</sub> emissions occurred about 2006 with the addition of an SO<sub>2</sub> scrubber. However, by using the 2001-2003 baseline emissions to describe the Hunter and Huntington Plants for the 2011 reference year, the result is that the post-2003 emission reductions at Hunter and Huntington are essentially double counted. As discussed in more detail below, the SO<sub>2</sub> controls and associated emission reductions are already being reflected in the 2009-2013 IMPROVE data, so the Utah CAMx modeling is in reality double counting the SO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions associated with such controls and inappropriately counts Huntington and Hunter as creating an additional reduction in sulfate relative to the 2009-2013 IMPROVE measurements.

**Response:** We clarify again that the baseline emissions are only used as ancillary data and added to all of the other global emissions being modeled for the RRF calculation as required by USEPA and the Regional Haze Rule. The commenter appears to be confused in the role of the IMPROVE data, which has no effect upon the modeling results.

It is evident from inspection of Tables 2-5 and 2-6 of Reference 1 that the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Hunter and Huntington plants between the USEPA FIP and the Utah SIP are identical. Therefore, any adjustments made to the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions for Hunter and Huntington as noted by the commenter are fairly and equally attributed to both of the alternative scenarios modeled. The modeling results confirm the intuitive expectation that the large reduction in SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the Utah SIP vs. the EPA FIP (which result in a significant visibility improvement year-round) is more effective in reducing haze effects than the relatively smaller amount of additional NO<sub>x</sub> emission reductions due to the EPA FIP (whose haze impacts are generally confined to the lowest visitation periods of winter).

**23)** [from Gebhart report, page 5] In the Utah Regional Haze SIP modeling, the CAMx modeling results from the various scenarios (Baseline, EPA FIP, Utah SIP) are each referenced back to the Typical Year (2011) case. In essence, the difference in CAMx modeling results between each scenario and the reference case defines a Relative Response Factor (RRF), which is then applied to the historical IMPROVE measurements to estimate the future visibility associated with each scenario. Since everything ties back to the Typical Year or reference case, the Hunter and Huntington emission inputs modeled for the typical year (2011) need to be consistent with the time period for the IMPROVE data (2009- 2013).

However, for some reason, the CAMx modeling for the "typical year" used the 2001-03 baseline emission data for Hunter and Huntington. While it is consistent with the Regional Haze requirements that the 2001-2003 period was used for "Baseline" emissions scenario, there is no rational reason for using 2001-2003 emissions in the Typical Year (2011) modeling. The Typical Year modeling should be the best representation possible for 2011 as the CAMx results are linked with the 2009-2013 IMPROVE data. Clearly, for some unexplained reason, such is not the case for the Hunter and Huntington emissions modeled in Utah's Regional Haze SIP.

**Response:** The commenter correctly points out that the use of the 2001-2003 emissions data is consistent with the Regional Haze Rule; that is why EPA required its use in the typical year modeling, which is using the best available 2011 modeling platform. The 2009-2013 IMPROVE data are only used to select the 20% best and worst days haze for comparison of the modeling results and to calculate the 2011 visibility design values, as required by EPA guidance cited in Reference 1. The commenter is not correct in stating that the CAMx results are linked with the IMPROVE data. The baseline and the three alternative cases modeled for the PacifiCorp plants (Hunter, Huntington, and Carbon) exhibit their own specific emission rates for those plants, but the chemistry environment into which the emissions are modeled, which include emissions from global sources, are appropriately consistent and identical among all scenarios using the best and most current available modeling platform. This modeling platform is, as noted above, far superior to the CALPUFF modeling used in the earlier decision regarding the acceptability of the Utah SIP.

**24)** [from Gebhart report, page 5] The most dramatic error introduced into the Typical Year (2011) modeling occurs with the Huntington Unit #2 SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (See Table 2). Similar errors also occur at other Hunter/Huntington units, but to a lesser degree. As noted in Table 1, Huntington Unit #2 installed SO<sub>2</sub> controls about 2006. Table 2 shows that the 2010-2012 Huntington Unit #2 SO<sub>2</sub> emissions were at levels roughly 90% below the baseline (2001-2003) SO<sub>2</sub> emissions, which makes sense if the design basis

for the Huntington Unit #2 SO<sub>2</sub> control was around 90%. On a mass emissions basis, the Huntington Unit #2 error exceeds 10,000 tpy, which is very significant. Since CAMx references each future year modeling scenario back to the Typical Year 2011 case, the result is that these emission inventory errors artificially inflate the sulfate RRF calculated by CAMx for the future year scenarios. The Huntington Unit #2 SO<sub>2</sub> controls are already reflected in the 2009-2013 IMPROVE data, so the Utah CAMx modeling is in reality double counting the effect of the Huntington Unit #2 SO<sub>2</sub> controls, i.e., the CAMx RRF inappropriately counts Huntington Unit #2 as creating an additional reduction in sulfate relative to the 2009-2013 IMPROVE measurements. Similarly, the same RRF error is exacerbated by SO<sub>2</sub> emission control improvements at other Hunter/Huntington units that were in placed in service after 2003, but prior to 2011.

**Response:** As noted above, the SO<sub>2</sub> emission rates used for modeling the USEPA FIP and the Utah SIP cases are identical. Any of the “errors” claimed by the commenter would affect both cases equally. The appropriate approach to this modeling, as confirmed by USEPA, is to determine the changes from the PacifiCorp baseline emissions versus the alternative future case emissions. As noted above, the only role that the IMPROVE data plays in the process is to guide the selection of the 20% worst and best days and the 2011 visibility design values and has no other role in the modeling procedure. Furthermore, as the results of Appendix D of the Final Report show, the PacifiCorp alternative will lead to improved visibility even when different ranges of the IMPROVE measurements are considered. Notice also that the reviewer appears to be confused about the calculation of the RRF, which is entirely related to model results, and not with the IMPROVE measurements themselves.

**25)** [from Gebhart report, page 6] As noted above, the error introduced by using the baseline (2001-2003) emissions in lieu of actual 2010-2012 emissions comes in calculating the correct RRF. In this instance, applying the baseline SO<sub>2</sub> emissions as representative of the 2010-2012 period would result in the sulfate RRF being biased high (i.e., the sulfate RRF is based on emission reductions already reflected in the IMPROVE data). As a result, the Utah CAMx modeling provides excessive credit for SO<sub>2</sub> reductions when calculating the resulting visibility benefits from the IMPROVE data. The excessive credit for sulfate reductions in the RRF also carries over to the incremental SO<sub>2</sub> reductions calculated for the Carbon Plant under the Utah SIP amendments. Similarly, the CAMx modeling credits various NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> emission control improvements at Hunter #2, Hunter #3, and Huntington #1, all of which were installed by 2011. This is a fundamental error with the CAMx modeling and the resulting implication is that the modeling results cannot be used to support Utah’s conclusion that the proposed amendments to the Utah Regional Haze SIP would result in greater visibility improvement compared to the EPA FIP.

**Response:** The response to this comment is consistent with those for the other comments. The SO<sub>2</sub> emissions being modeled for the Hunter and Huntington plants for the USEPA FIP and the Utah SIP are identical. Any effect on the modeling results due to the proper selection of the Regional Haze Rule baseline emissions for Hunter and Huntington would apply to both cases. This comment also shows an apparent misunderstanding on the part of the commenter on how the RRFs are calculated, since the results for the typical year are common and identical to all future scenarios in the RRF calculation.

## Other Comments

**26)** [Conservation Organizations] The commenters rely on the expert report prepared by Howard Gebhart to challenge CAMx modeling for the NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative.

**Response:** The commenters do not provide any details on Mr. Gebhart's qualifications to comment on the modeling, which questions the credibility of his technical comments. To contrast, one of the companies performing modeling analysis supporting the current BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub>—Ramboll—has been involved with the CAMx model as the developer and drafter of the CAMx User's Guide. See 82 Fed. Reg. 1,733, 1,736 (Jan 6, 2017) (identifying Ramboll as the CAMx model developer); User's Guide Comprehensive Air Quality Model with Extensions, Version 6.50 (April 2018), available at <http://www.camx.com/about/default.aspx> (last visited on June 3, 2019) (Ramboll is the author listed on the guide holding copyright to the publication). This bolsters the credibility and the technical soundness of the modeling performed to support the current SIP for NO<sub>x</sub>.

**27)** [Conservation Organizations] The commenters incorporate by reference their previous comment letters opposing the State's earlier regional haze SIPs for NO<sub>x</sub>, specifically July 16, 2012, December 22, 2014, and May 1, 2015 comment letters.

**Response:** The commenters must make specific comments on the current proposal instead of incorporating by reference earlier comments on other proposals with different legal and technical bases. The state will not consider these incorporated comments because their application to the current rulemaking is unclear and lacks specificity. The state also objects that it should not have to guess how the earlier comments apply to this BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub>.

**28)** [Conservation Organizations and the General Public] Commenters assert that the controls required by EPA's FIP would provide environmental, public health, and economic benefits that far outweigh any costs. For public health benefits, the commenters cite an EPA website where the agency estimated health benefits from the full implementation of the regional haze program. The commenters present statistics for park visitation in Utah and the impact it has on the economy of the state. The commenters cite studies showing how haze in the parks negatively affects tourism. Commenters also assert that installation of the controls on the power plants will create short-term employment opportunities.

**Response:** In this response, UDAQ first addresses the general question of whether the apparent possibility of the ancillary "co-benefits" commenters assert would result from the Board's disapproval of the proposed SIP (and presumed compliance with EPA's FIP) are proper considerations under the regional haze program, and then responds to specific arguments the commenters make.

As a general matter, the only proper consideration under the regional haze program is visibility improvement. Section 169A of the CAA and the accompanying regulations create a program for protecting visibility in national parks and wilderness areas. The purpose of this program is to prevent any future and to remedy any existing visibility impairment resulting from manmade pollution in those

areas. See 42 U.S.C. § 7491(a)(1). The legal test for the current rulemaking in 40 C.F.R. § 51.308(e)(3) requires Utah to “conduct dispersion modeling” and to demonstrate greater reasonable progress under the alternative program when compared to BART. Such progress is demonstrated numerically by meeting two prongs: (1) visibility does not decline in any Class I area and (2) there is an overall improvement in visibility based on the average differences between BART and the alternative over all Class I areas. See 40 C.F.R. § 51.308(e)(3)(i) and (ii). To be relevant, any comment on Utah’s proposed SIP must focus strictly on these two criteria. Moreover, the regional haze statutes and regulations provide no criteria for evaluating impacts on health, economy, or employment. Thus, the Board has no regulatory basis for evaluating such considerations. Commenters are asking the regional haze program to do the work of other Clean Air Act programs, but with no authorization or regulatory guidance. Congress could have but did not require such consideration when it created the regional haze program.

### Health and Ecosystem

The commenters claim that reductions in regional haze will reduce harm to human health as well as damage to plants, animals, soil, and water. See Conservation Organizations Comments at 6-7. However, as explained, EPA has no statutory or regulatory authority to consider health benefits in reviewing the states’ regional haze implementation plans. See *e.g.*, 81 Fed. Reg. 43,894, 43,921 (July 5, 2016) (“neither section 169A of the CAA, nor the BART Guidelines, require the BART analysis to include or quantify benefits to health, as health impacts are appropriately addressed under other CAA programs”).

The commenters cite an EPA Fact Sheet – Final Clean Air Visibility Rule to claim that EPA considered health impacts of the regional haze program generally and found that the program would be beneficial in reducing deaths, heart attacks, hospital admissions, and sick days for workers and school children. See Conservation Organizations Comments at 6, n.7. Utah was not able to verify this information because the link commenters provide as a citation is broken and the webpage does not exist. Although commenters claim that EPA made these estimations in 2015, the broken link on which the commenter relies was last visited almost 7 years ago, on July 3, 2012. See *id.* All other citations commenters provide in support of their health and environmental comments rely on information no more recent than 2012. Regardless, the statutory guidance is clear that such information is not considered in specific rulemakings such as the current one.

The commenters’ generic statements never explain clearly what “full implementation of the Regional Haze Rule” means for Utah. As such, it is difficult to understand how this general phrase relates specifically to the proposal before the Board.

EPA has already approved Utah’s SO<sub>2</sub> and PM regional haze SIP provisions, and as the two-prong test shows in this proposed SIP, Utah is also making reasonable progress on NO<sub>x</sub> reductions with existing controls. Because Utah cannot be held to any standard more stringent than what the regional haze program already requires and what EPA (by its approvals) has verified Utah is currently accomplishing, as far as can be expected at this point in time Utah is already achieving the benefits identified by the commenters. Utah is already achieving the benefits identified by the commenters and the current SIP for NO<sub>x</sub> results in reduction of 2,856 more total tons per year of all haze-causing pollutants (NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>,

and PM) than the EPA's stayed FIP. See Staff Review 2008 PM BART Determination and Recommended Alternative to BART for NO<sub>x</sub> at 27 (May 13, 2015). Even though irrelevant for the legal test applied to the current NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative, the closure of the Carbon plant also reduced solid waste, water usage, fugitive dust, eliminated wastewater, fly ash, and greenhouse gases emissions. See *id.*, at 26-27.

### Tourism

On pages 7-8, commenters state that national park visitation yields substantial economic benefits for states, suggesting that the Utah could receive similar benefits. Commenters also assert that "visitors are willing to alter the length of their stay based on their perception of air quality" and that "[s]tudies have shown visitors value clean air in national parks, are able to tell when it is hazy, and enjoy their visit less when haze is bad."

The suggestion that the quality of visitor experience and visibility conditions are related is unremarkable, to say the least. The purpose of the visibility program itself is exactly that – to improve the Class I area visitor experience in terms of human perception, as measured in deciviews. See 40 C.F.R. § 51.301. However, as explained earlier, the purpose of the program is *only* that—visibility improvement. Thus, the impact on tourism cannot be considered under the Section 308 alternative test at issue in this SIP proposal (or any other test for reasonable progress). This mathematical two-prong test is the only test by which the Utah Air Quality Board is asked to approve the SIP proposal.

As explained above, although the regional haze program aims to improve visitor experience by gradually returning Class I areas to natural visibility, 42 U.S.C. § 7491(a), the statutes and regulations do not require consideration of other factors, nor do they contain any criteria for measuring the economic impact of regional haze (or its reduction) on local or state economies. Thus, there is no analytical framework for the Board to employ to make such determinations in the context of the regional haze program. In the absence of such authority, such considerations are irrelevant to the decision the Board is being asked to make.

In any event, the 2018 national park visitation data suggests that, contrary to the commenters' assertions, visitation at Class I areas relevant to the regional haze SIP is not declining due to impaired visibility. This recent data places Zion and Grand Canyon National Parks (the two Class I areas affected by the current rulemaking) in the top 10 most visited in 2018, with 4.3 million visits at Zion and 6.4 million at the Grand Canyon. See National Park Service, Social Science, Annual Visitation Highlights, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/annual-visitation-highlights.htm> (last visited on May 24, 2019). From the time Utah began regional haze work in 1999 to the end of the first planning period in 2018, the number of visitors to Zion National Park nearly doubled from 2.4 million to 4.3 million. See [https://irma.nps.gov/Stats/SSRSReports/Park%20Specific%20Reports/Annual%20Park%20Recreation%20Visitation%20\(1904%20-%20Last%20Calendar%20Year\)?Park=ZION](https://irma.nps.gov/Stats/SSRSReports/Park%20Specific%20Reports/Annual%20Park%20Recreation%20Visitation%20(1904%20-%20Last%20Calendar%20Year)?Park=ZION) (last visited on May 24, 2019). The greatest increase in visits over this period was in 2016 when an additional 650,000 people visited the park. See *id.*

The same tendency is observed when looking at the Grand Canyon National Park visitation numbers. The number of visits from 1999 to 2018 increased roughly by a third from 4.5 million in 1999 to 6.4 million in

2018. See

[https://irma.nps.gov/Stats/SSRSReports/Park%20Specific%20Reports/Annual%20Park%20Recreation%20Visitation%20\(1904%20-%20Last%20Calendar%20Year\)?Park=GRCA](https://irma.nps.gov/Stats/SSRSReports/Park%20Specific%20Reports/Annual%20Park%20Recreation%20Visitation%20(1904%20-%20Last%20Calendar%20Year)?Park=GRCA) (last visited on May 24, 2019). The biggest jump in visitation numbers was in 2015 with approximately 760 thousand additional visits when compared to 2014. See *id.* According to a recent report from the National Park Service, visitor spending alone at national parks in Utah is currently contributing \$1.2 billion to the Utah economy. See Visitor Spending Effects - Economic Contributions of National Park Visitor Spending, available at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm> (last visited on May 28, 2019). This is approximately double the amount spent in 2012. *Id.*

Therefore, even if economic impacts were a factor under the relevant legal test in Section 308(e)(3), which they are not, the evidence does not support commenters' suggestion that under the current circumstances (the existing pollution controls in place at PacifiCorp's units), visitors are avoiding the Class I areas subject to Utah's regional haze SIP due to poor visibility, or alone negatively impacting the economy by reducing their visitation as a result. To the contrary, the National Park Service data indicates that visitation and spending are increasing. Utah is already complying with the regional haze program requirements and enjoying these ancillary benefits, even though they are not factors in the two-prong test.

### Employment

Commenters suggest that compliance with EPA's FIP will provide short-term employment for the installation of SCR. For the same reasons that health and tourism are not considered in this rulemaking, neither is the potential for short-term employment.

**29)** [Conservation Organizations and the General Public] To help restore visibility in national parks impaired by Utah's large coal plants, namely Hunter and Huntington, U.S. EPA in 2016 issued a federal implementation plan ("FIP") requiring significant reductions of nitrogen oxide ("NO<sub>x</sub>") emissions from these plants. In doing so, EPA found that the NO<sub>x</sub> emission reductions would achieve significant visibility benefits at the iconic Utah parks. Unfortunately, the State of Utah now seeks to reverse the visibility gains secured by EPA's plan, proposing to replace it with a state implementation plan ("SIP") that would do nothing to reduce current NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from Units 1 and 2 at the Hunter and Huntington plants, two of the largest sources of visibility impairing emissions in the State of Utah. Instead, Utah proposes to take credit for historical reductions of NO<sub>x</sub> and sulfur dioxide ("SO<sub>2</sub>") at other coal plant units to justify its refusal to meet BART requirements that would achieve necessary NO<sub>x</sub> emission reductions at Hunter and Huntington Units 1 and 2.

**Response:** When EPA disapproved Utah's SIP in 2016 and issued a FIP, it said that doing so was a "close call." Approval, Disapproval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Air Quality Implementation Plans and Federal Implementation Plan; Utah; Revisions to Regional Haze State Implementation Plan; Federal Implementation Plan for Regional Haze, 81 Fed. Reg. 43,894, 43,895 (July 5, 2016). In its request for comments on the proposed decision, EPA asked for submittal of "additional information or analysis on the co-proposals, for example, analysis

related to the modeled visibility benefits of the BART Alternative compared to BART.” Approval, Disapproval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Air Quality Implementation Plans and Federal Implementation Plan; Utah; Revisions to Regional Haze State Implementation Plan; Federal Implementation Plan for Regional Haze, 81 Fed. Reg. 2004, 2006-07 (Jan. 16, 2016) (proposed rule). Additionally, in its proposed decision EPA stated that it “would work with the State on a revised State plan should a partial disapproval and FIP be finalized.” *Id.*, 81 Fed. Reg. at 2004. In the final decision, in which EPA issued the FIP it stated, “The State retains its authority to submit a revised state plan consistent with CAA and Regional Haze Rule (RHR) requirements. An approvable SIP submission will result in the modification or withdrawal of the FIP.” 81 Fed. Reg. at 43,893. This technical submittal is in fulfillment of this request.

The comment that Hunter Units 1 and 2 and Huntington Units 1 and 2 were exempted from any emissions reductions whatsoever is incorrect. Under the alternative to BART program for SO<sub>2</sub>, PacifiCorp installed an SO<sub>2</sub> scrubber on Huntington Unit 2 and upgraded the scrubbers on the other 3 EGUs. As a result, SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the four EGUs decreased by 18,707 tons/yr between 2002 and 2014. The alternative measures for NO<sub>x</sub> outlined in the proposed SIP revision require the installation of low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air at all 4 EGUs and emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> decreased by 11,988 tons/yr between 2002 and 2014. The BART determination for PM in the proposed rule requires the replacement of electrostatic precipitators with baghouses leading to significant reductions in PM and mercury emissions. The emission reduction requirements for these EGUs were established in 2008 and were fully implemented by 2015.

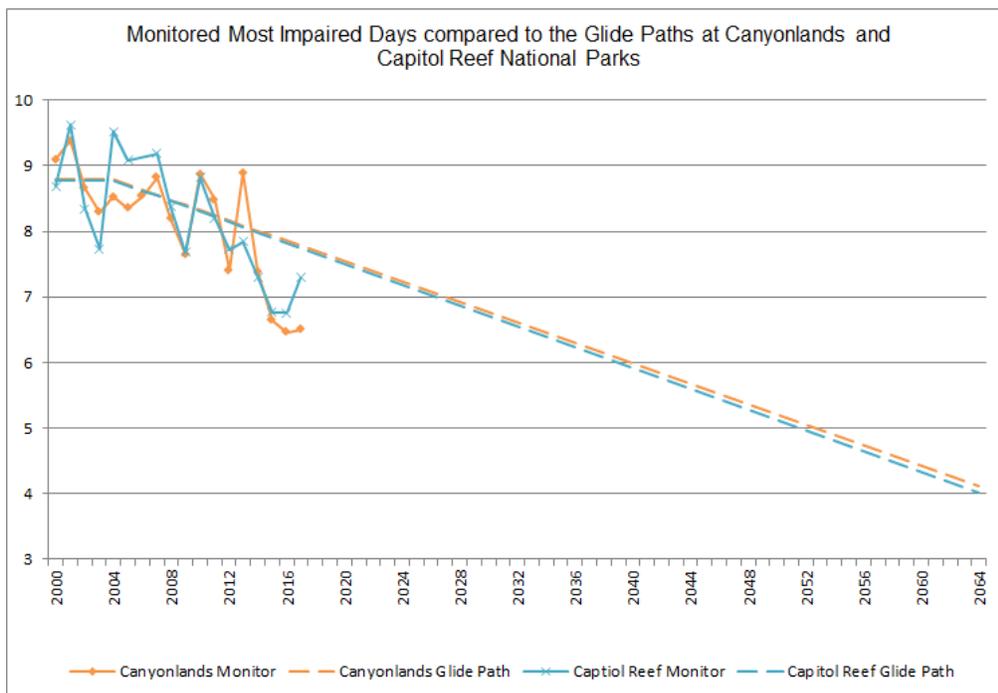
**30)** [Conservation Organizations] Each SIP/FIP must provide “emission limits, schedules of compliance and other measures as may be necessary to make reasonable progress towards meeting the national goal.” 42 U.S.C. § 7491(b)(2). One of the most critical features of a regional haze SIP/FIP is the requirements for the installation of BART for delineated major stationary sources of pollution. 40 CFR § 51.308(d)(1)(i)(B). The SIP/FIP is to make progress towards achieving natural visibility conditions in the nation’s Class I areas by 2064.

**Response:** Staff agrees that BART is an important part of a state’s Regional Haze SIP. We also recognize that 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2) specifically allows states “to implement or require participation in an emissions trading program *or other alternative measure* rather than to require sources subject to BART to install, operate, and maintain BART.” 40 C.F.R. § 51.308(e)(2) (emphasis added). Utah has opted to require such an alternative and has demonstrated, using the two-prong test in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3), that said alternative does provide “greater reasonable progress” than the most stringent controls required by EPA’s FIP.

**31)** [Conservation Organizations] The Regional Haze Rule establishes a target for achieving natural visibility conditions at all Class I areas by 2064, within 45 years. However, under Utah’s proposal it will likely take hundreds of years for Utah’s Class I areas to achieve natural visibility conditions.

**Response:** The commenter did not provide any evidence to support the statement that it would take hundreds of years to achieve natural visibility conditions. The purpose of this SIP is not to reach natural

conditions. There will be at least five more SIPs written between now and 2064 that will each help Utah come closer to achieving natural conditions in 2064. The comment is factually incorrect. If Utah continues its current trajectory it would achieve natural conditions *before* 2064. The graph below compares the monitored Most Impaired Days to the Glide Path in two Class I areas in Utah. If current trends continue, Canyonlands and Capitol Reef would reach natural conditions by 2042 and 2040 respectively.



**32)** [Conservation Organizations] Commenters claim that “Utah’s proposed SIP revision and BART Alternative are the latest in Utah’s unbroken stream of attempts to justify exempting Hunter and Huntington from compliance with the Clean Air Act or making any significant NO<sub>x</sub> emissions reductions.”

**Response:** Commenters are factually wrong. For years, Utah has made significant progress in improving visibility by reducing SO<sub>2</sub>, PM, and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions as shown in the graph above. Utah has never sought to “exempt” the Hunter and Huntington plants from CAA compliance, but instead has required installation of emission controls that have reduced the pollutants that contribute to regional haze. As their comments illustrate quite clearly, commenters seek additional controls on the PacifiCorp units not only for visibility improvement, which is the only relevant criterion under the regional haze program, but also for ancillary benefits unrelated to visibility that they contend their desired additional controls will provide, regardless of their cost.

The history of the regional haze program and Utah’s participation in it show that the state has taken a proactive approach to reducing haze, resulting in significant reductions and showing that Utah is making reasonable progress toward natural visibility conditions by the statutory goal of 2064.

Utah submitted its first regional haze SIP to EPA in 2003, five years earlier than required, and revised it with BART requirements for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM in 2008. *See* 77 Fed. Reg. 74,355-02, 74,356 (Dec. 14, 2012). Utah made steady progress in reducing haze even though EPA did not act timely on either the 2003 or 2008 SIPs. *See* 42 U.S.C. 7410(k)(2); 77 Fed. Reg. at 74,355. Although EPA eventually disapproved Utah's PM and NO<sub>x</sub> BART determinations in 2012 (four years after submission by Utah), *see* 77 Fed. Reg. at 74,367, EPA did not disapprove Utah's choice of controls for PM and NO<sub>x</sub> BART but claimed that Utah did not properly perform the five-factor BART analysis for those two pollutants, and improperly relied on BART presumptive limits, *see id.* at 74,363; 74,367. Although Utah and PacifiCorp disagreed with the disapproval and challenged it in court, their petitions were dismissed on time-based jurisdictional grounds. *See Utah v. EPA*, 765 F.3d 1257 (10th Cir. 2014). Consequently, the court never addressed whether the controls and limits Utah required as BART were proper.

By the time of EPA's disapproval in 2012, PacifiCorp had already completed the installation of almost all the controls legally required by Utah's 2008 SIP. *See* Progress Report for Utah's State Implementation Plan for Regional Haze 6 (Sept. 23, 2014). Despite EPA's disapproval, PacifiCorp was required to install the controls because the 2008 SIP had become binding state law upon approval by the Utah Air Quality Board. *See* Staff Review 2008 PM BART Determination and Recommended Alternative to BART for NO<sub>x</sub> (May 13, 2015); 81 Fed. Reg. at 43,910 (EPA agreeing that the controls under 2008 SIP were "required by Utah law"); 42 U.S.C. §7410(a).

Utah prepared a new SIP to address the EPA disapproval of the PM and NO<sub>x</sub> BART limits. For NO<sub>x</sub>, Utah opted to submit a BART Alternative rather than BART. Utah submitted the new SIP on June 4, 2015. *See* 81 Fed. Reg. 43,894. Utah worked closely with EPA to develop the NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative, and EPA did not raise any concerns with Utah's methodology or approach.

Contrary to the commenters' claim, the NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative included the enforceable commitment to close the Carbon power plant (a non-BART plant) and to add additional controls on Hunter Unit 3 (a non-BART unit). *See* Utah SIP Section XX(6)(c), BART for NO<sub>x</sub>. The Utah Air Quality Board approved the SIP on June 3, 2015, thus making the SIP, including the requirement to close the Carbon power plant, state law and binding on PacifiCorp. Thus, any contention by the commenters that PacifiCorp could have simply re-commissioned the Carbon plant later is false, as its decommissioning was already required by law regardless of any ability to comply with the MATs rule or outcome of litigation over that rule.

On January 14, 2016, EPA issued a proposed rule containing co-proposals either to approve the BART Alternative or disapprove it and impose a FIP for NO<sub>x</sub> BART. *See* 81 Fed. Reg. 2,004, 2,006-07 (Jan. 14, 2016) (proposed rule). On July 5, 2016, EPA approved Utah's PM BART determination, but disapproved the state's NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative for the Hunter Units 1 and 2 and Huntington Units 1 and 2. As part of its final rule, EPA imposed a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) that determined NO<sub>x</sub> BART controls for all for applicable units at the Hunter and Huntington power plants require the installation of selective catalytic reduction (SCR) controls with low NO<sub>x</sub> burners and separated overfire air (SCR + LNB/SOFA). In effect, EPA's FIP requires SCR in addition to all the controls that PacifiCorp had already installed pursuant to previous regional haze SIPs.

The State of Utah and PacifiCorp contested EPA's FIP in court. See *Utah v. EPA*, No. 16-9541 (consolidated) (Sept. 1, 2016). EPA relied, in large part, on certain results from the CALPUFF computer model to reject Utah's BART Alternative. See 81 Fed. Reg. 43,894, 43, 899 (July 5, 2016). Utah and PacifiCorp contend that the CALPUFF model results used by EPA had several limitations. See Preliminary Br. of Petitioner State of Utah at 15, n.9; 29-32, ECF. No. 47, *Utah v. EPA*, No. 16-9541 (March 10, 2017); Preliminary Opening Br. of Petitioner PacifiCorp at 42-43, *id.* (March 17, 2017). Specifically, the CALPUFF model did not account for the model's margin of error, used an improper ammonia background number, and ignored relevant wind trajectory information. See Preliminary Opening Br. of Petitioner PacifiCorp at 69-79, *id.* PacifiCorp and Utah also challenged EPA's FIP on other grounds.

PacifiCorp and Utah both asked the court to stay the implementation of EPA's FIP, see State of Utah's Mot. for Stay, ECF. No. 26, *id.* (Oct. 28, 2016); PacifiCorp's Mot. for Stay, ECF. No. 30, *id.* (Oct. 28, 2016), and EPA later asked to court to abate the litigation. See Mot. to Hold Cases in Abeyance Pending Agency Reconsideration of Final Rule, ECF. No. 65, *id.* (July 18, 2017). The court agreed, and since then Utah and PacifiCorp have collaborated with EPA on this SIP revision, including more detailed modeling. See Order at 6, ECF No. 97, *id.* (Sept. 11, 2017).

This lengthy history shows that Utah has worked diligently to fulfill its haze-reduction responsibilities in the face of EPA inaction and eventual tardy disapprovals. Utah welcomes the positive collaborative relationship with EPA that it currently enjoys, which is what the cooperative federalism structure of the Clean Air Act contemplates. However, Utah continues to maintain that its efforts thus far comply and have always complied with the regional haze program requirements, as shown by the continual improvement in visibility at all relevant Class I areas and as shown by the CAMx modeling used in the Section 51.308(e)(3) demonstration for this SIP.

**33)** [Conservation Organizations] The commenters recite the history of litigation in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit over the disapproved Utah's BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> submitted to EPA in June of 2015. The commenters suggest that because this litigation had been in abeyance since September 11, 2017 and EPA's FIP requiring installation of SCRs was stayed, there is a resulting delay in air quality improvements promised under the FIP.

**Response:** This comment implies that issuance of the stay on EPA's FIP was somehow inappropriate or erroneous. But Utah met all the legal requirements for stay under the Tenth Circuit rules and precedent. The Tenth Circuit ordered a stay of EPA's FIP after considering the factors in *Nken v. Holder*, 556 U.S. 418 (2009). See Order at 6, ECF No. 97, *Utah v. EPA*, No. 16-9541 (consolidated) (10th Cir. Sept. 11, 2017). The *Nken* factors require that the stay applicant (in this case the State of Utah) makes a strong showing that it is likely to succeed on the merits, that it will be irreparably injured absent a stay, that the other parties interested in the proceedings will not be substantially injured, and that the public interest supports the stay. See *Nken*, 556 U.S. at 434. The Tenth Circuit was "persuaded" by Utah's arguments that a stay was "appropriate in the circumstances of this case" and, "in an exercise of its discretion," the court placed a hold on EPA's FIP pending judicial review of the EPA's disapproval. Order at 6, *Utah v. EPA*, No. 16-9541. The same conservation organizations commenting on the current rulemaking and intervening in the Tenth Circuit litigation to oppose Utah did not appeal this stay ruling.

EPA itself requested the Tenth Circuit to stay proceedings to give the parties (state, EPA, and affected power plants) time to work towards resolving the case through settlement instead of litigating it. See Mot. to Hold Cases in Abeyance Pending Agency Reconsideration of Final Rule, ECF No. 65, *Utah v. EPA*, No. 16-9541 (July 18, 2017). The Tenth Circuit agreed: “In light of EPA’s decision to reconsider the Final Rule, it would be a waste of the court’s and the litigants’ resources and a hardship on EPA and the stay movants for the court to proceed with these matters.” Order at 7, ECF No. 97, *id.*

**34)** [Conservation Organizations] UDAQ’s first regional haze SIP in 2008 found that PacifiCorp’s Hunter Unit 1, Hunter Unit 2, Huntington Unit 1, and Huntington Unit 2 EGUs were subject to BART, but proposed to find that limited emissions reductions achievable by replacing the units’ first-generation of low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with upgraded combustion controls satisfied BART for NO<sub>x</sub>.

**Response:** The first Regional Haze SIP was submitted in 2003, five years earlier than required. In 2005, EPA finalized the presumptive BART limits. See 40 CFR Part 51 Appendix Y Guidelines for BART Determinations under the Regional Haze Rule (70 FR 39135). At the time Utah submitted the SIP revision in 2008, the emissions limits set on the Hunter and Huntington Units were lower than what was presumed to be BART at the time. These presumptive limits have not changed since 2005.

**35)** [Conservation Organizations] EPA disapproved the state’s NO<sub>x</sub> BART proposal on December 14, 2012, stating that Utah failed to perform a proper, five-factor BART analysis. On June 4, 2015, Utah submitted a BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> for the same PacifiCorp EGUs. The alternative measure relied on the installation of low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air at Hunter Units 1 and 2 and Huntington Units 1 and 2. But in addition, Utah’s BART Alternative took credit for unrelated and wholly past reductions of visibility impairing pollutants from three EGUs that are not subject to BART. Specifically, Utah relied on past NO<sub>x</sub> emissions reductions from upgraded combustion controls on Hunter Unit 2, and reductions in particulate matter, NO<sub>x</sub>, and SO<sub>2</sub> resulting from the permanent closure on August 15, 2015 of both units of the Carbon Plant and rescission of the plant’s operating permit by December 31, 2015. PacifiCorp shut down the Carbon Power Plant in 2015 due to the high cost and infeasibility of controlling mercury to meet the requirements of EPA’s Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS).

**Response:** Although EPA disapproved the State’s BART for NO<sub>x</sub> proposal in 2012 due to concerns about the BART analysis, DAQ notes that it was the analysis that was in question, not the controls. The state worked closely with EPA to complete a thorough analysis and, because Utah then required additional controls on non-BART units, performed the analysis for a BART alternative rather than BART. Past emissions reductions were used in the analysis because the reductions were within the first planning period, the only planning period the SIP was addressing, and were required to be counted as such. Additionally, counting reductions from the shutdown of the Carbon plant is permissible under the Regional Haze Rule. See 40 C.F.R. § 51.308(e)(2)(iv).

**36)** [Conservation Organizations] EPA’s CAMx modeling projections for 2028 generally reflect a proper accounting of the visibility impacts of Utah’s proposed BART Alternative. Importantly, EPA’s modeling for the Class I areas modeled by PacifiCorp shows that, with the exception of the Mount Zirkel Wilderness, none of the Class I areas will be on the glide path to meet natural background visibility by

2045 with Carbon Units 1 and 2 shutdown and Hunter Unit 3's low NO<sub>x</sub> burners/overfire air combustion controls.

**Response:** Using a projection to 2028 to show that Utah is not meeting its "reasonable progress" obligations for the first planning period, which ended in 2018, is erroneous. It assumes that the State will not require any other measures to continue making progress towards natural visibility conditions. The contrary is true. Staff is currently working with the other 14 Western states, EPA, and Federal Land Managers to make additional progress during the second planning period, which runs from 2021 to 2028. The purpose of this SIP revision is to add technical information to the NO<sub>x</sub> part of the SIP for the first planning period. Additionally, Utah is not trying to achieve natural conditions by 2045. (Although that could happen if visibility continues the trajectory it has been following for the past five years.) Instead, the Regional Haze Rule requires states to attain natural visibility conditions by 2064.

**37)** [Conservation Organizations] Emissions from the three power plants would be lower overall under the BART FIP compared to the BART Alternative.

**Response:** This comment assumes that the emissions reductions for the BART alternative and the EPA FIP would be counted toward the BART for NO<sub>x</sub>. It would be illegal to apply emissions reductions from controls installed on non-BART units to fulfill the BART requirement. See 40 C.F.R. § 51.308(e)(2)(i).

**38)** [Wasatch Clean Air Coalition] The 1990 Clean Air Act revisions directed the formation of the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission. After years of work, GCVTC released 70 recommendations for improving visibility in 16 national parks and wilderness areas on the Colorado Plateau. States could comply with the 70 recommendations under §309 and submit a SIP in 2003 or submit a SIP under §308 by 2007. Submitting our RH SIP 5 years before the other states was a huge commitment for Utah, but was the locally developed, consensus solution.

Under the provisions of Utah's §309 SIP, additional pollution controls were applied to several units at Hunter & Huntington which reduced PM, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. This was before SCR was widespread. Utah's 2018 SO<sub>2</sub> reduction target was reached in 2010. Analysis of monitoring values after installation of these early §309 RH SIP controls indicate that the visibility improvements from NO<sub>x</sub> reductions were small, and additional NO<sub>x</sub> reductions would provide little visibility improvement.

**Response:** Staff agrees with these comments.

**39)** [PacifiCorp] The State of Utah has Acted Diligently Regarding Regional Haze Regulation, and this Rule is a Product of those Diligent Efforts. Utah's current NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative is part of the larger regional haze program that the State of Utah undertook as early as 1991. Utah submitted its initial regional haze SIP to EPA in 2003 with a subsequent revision that included BART requirements for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM in 2008. See 77 Fed. Reg. 74,355-02, 74,356 (Dec. 14, 2012). EPA did not act timely on either the 2003 submission or the 2008 revision. See 42 U.S.C. § 7410(k)(2); 77 Fed. Reg. at 74,355. In fact, EPA disapproved Utah's PM and NO<sub>x</sub> BART in 2012 (four years after submission by Utah), and only after it was compelled to act under the terms of a consent decree. See 77 Fed. Reg. at 74,367.

In 2012, EPA did not disapprove Utah's choice of controls for PM and NO<sub>x</sub> BART but claimed that Utah did not properly perform the five-factor BART analysis, see *id.* at 74,367, and improperly relied on BART presumptive limits, see *id.* at 74,363. Utah and PacifiCorp challenged this disapproval, but their petitions were dismissed on time-based jurisdictional grounds caused by EPA's confusing publication of the rule. See *Utah v. EPA*, 765 F.3d 1257 (10th Cir. 2014).

By the time of EPA's tardy disapproval in 2012, PacifiCorp had almost completed installation of the controls legally required by Utah's 2008 SIP. See Progress Report for Utah's State Implementation Plan for Regional Haze (Sept. 23, 2014). These emissions control equipment installations were obligatory because the 2008 SIP had become binding state law as soon as the Utah Air Quality Board approved it. See Staff Review 2008 PM BART Determination and Recommended Alternative to BART for NO<sub>x</sub> (May 13, 2015); 81 Fed. Reg. at 43,910 (agreeing that the controls under 2008 SIP were "required by Utah law"); 42 U.S.C. §7410(a).

**Response:** DAQ agrees with this comment.

**40)** [Conservation Organizations] The comment cites 40 CFR § 51.301 and 42 U.S.C. § 7491(g) and discusses the definition that establishes a framework for conducting a BART analysis. The commenters describe two steps: (1) identifying the "best system of continuous emission reduction" or the best technology for each relevant pollutant, 40 CFR § 51.301, and (2) applying the five-factor test to determine the best emission limitation achievable by that technology.

**Response:** The commenters incorrectly describe the BART analysis process. Although a discussion of BART is irrelevant because Utah has elected to pursue a BART alternative measure under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2), UDAQ explains the proper BART process to correct the errors in the comment.

Appendix Y to Part 51 contains specific guidance on BART. See 40 C.F.R. Pt. 51, Appx. Y, Guidelines for BART Determinations Under the Regional Haze Rule (Sept. 6, 2005). BART determinations are the result of a top-down analysis that begins by identifying *all* available control technologies i.e. "the most stringent option and a reasonable set of options for analysis that reflects a comprehensive list of available technologies." *Id.*, IV.D, n.12. The list is then narrowed first by eliminating the technologies based on technical feasibility, then by effectiveness of the technically feasible technologies, and finally by the impact analysis, which consists of costs of compliance, energy impacts, non-air quality environmental impacts, and remaining useful life of the existing controls. *Id.*, IV.D, Steps 1-4. The last step considers visibility impacts from the controls selected in steps 1 through 4. *Id.*, IV.D, Step 5. In other words, a BART analysis is a process of elimination of different technologies rather than a process of identifying the best technology and then selecting an emission limit based on feasibility and various impacts.

**41)** [PacifiCorp] The Utah BART Alternative Easily Passes the Weight of Evidence Test. PacifiCorp supports the state of Utah in using the quantitative two prong-test under the BART Alternative rules to demonstrate that the BART Alternative makes greater reasonable progress than BART. PacifiCorp also believes, just as it has argued in previous rulemakings, that the BART Alternative also passes the weight of evidence test previously performed by the state of Utah. In fact, the new modeling information adds

significant support to that analysis, and clearly demonstrates that the BART Alternative makes greater reasonable progress than BART, as required by the rule.

The new modeling performed adds support to the previous “Weight of Evidence” visibility analysis performed by Utah. CAMx modeling should be given more weight than CALPUFF modeling. The substantial cost advantage of the BART alternative must be properly considered. The energy and environmental impacts of the BART alternative are superior to BART. The BART alternative provides early and ongoing emission reductions.

**Response:** DAQ agrees that the additional CAMx modeling and application of the two-prong test would further support a weight of evidence analysis under the Regional Haze Rule. Because this SIP revision is based solely on the technical information to support the two-prong test, the weight of evidence test is not relevant here.

**42)** [Conservation Organizations] The commenters state that “Utah’s significant emissions also impact numerous Class I areas in other states including, but not limited to: Craters of the Moon National Monument (Idaho); Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, Flat Topps Wilderness Area, Mesa Verde National Park (Colorado); Jarbidge Wilderness Area (Nevada); and, Grand Canyon National Park (Arizona).” The commenters say that many of these areas are also predicted not to meet the uniform rate of progress for 2018.

**Response:** As stated in other responses to comments, Utah only must meet the two-prong test in Section 308 for its current SIP to satisfy the legal requirements for BART NO<sub>x</sub> for the first planning period. See 40 C.F.R. § 51.308(e)(3)(i) and (ii). Consideration of impacts to a larger region of Class I areas may be relevant in the context of long-term strategy and reasonable progress goals for regional haze under 40 CFR 51.308(d)(3)(ii) and *only* when other states are contributing to visibility impairment in Utah’s Class I areas, not the other way around. When there is such contribution from other states, Section 308 requires a state to include in its SIP “all measures necessary to obtain its share of emission reduction needed to meet the progress goal for the area.” *Id.*, § 50.308(d)(3)(ii). In other words, in order to establish an approvable long-term strategy, the state must ensure it is taking care of its share of emission reductions regardless of the contribution made by other states.

Additionally, this comment is poorly supported. The commenters do not cite any studies or analysis to show that Utah’s emissions are contributing to haze in numerous Class I areas in other states. There is a single reference to the Craters of the Moon National Park in Idaho on page 2 of Exhibit 1 attached to the Conservation Organizations’ comment letter. (Exhibit 1 is an earlier comment letter submitted by the same organizations on Utah’s regional haze SIP submissions on May 26, 2011 (NO<sub>x</sub> BART SIP) and September 9, 2008 (SO<sub>2</sub> backstop trading program). See 77 Fed. Reg. 28,825 (May 16, 2012) (proposed rule); 77 Fed. Reg. 74,355 (Dec. 12, 2012) (final rule)). None of the other Class I areas listed by the commenters are referenced anywhere else in the exhibits submitted by the commenters.

To support the statement that Utah contributes to visibility impairment at Craters of the Moon National Park, Exhibit 1 cites the National Park Service comment letter submitted to Utah in August of 2008 on Utah’s draft regional haze implementation plan. This August 2008 letter contains a suggestion from NPS

that “Utah could examine how emissions changes expected from implementation of its SIP would reduce Utah’s impacts on CRMO [Craters of the Moon National Monument] between the baseline period and 2018.” Ex. 1 at 2, n.2 (referencing Exhibit 16). In other words, this supporting document lacks any definite findings of impact that Utah’s emissions have on visibility at the CRMO.

**43)** [PacificCorp] Critics’ claims regarding national parks in Utah, the subject of the regional haze program, are often misleading and incorrect. For example, according to the National Park Service (“NPS”), Capitol Reef National Park enjoys “relatively good air quality,” and “[s]ignificant improvements in park visibility have been documented since the 2000’s.” See <https://www.nps.gov/articles/airprofiles-care.htm>. Similarly, the NPS has found Canyonlands National Park has experienced “[s]ignificant improvements in park visibility . . . since the early 1990’s.” See <https://www.nps.gov/articles/airprofiles-cany.htm>. Moreover, Utah’s National Parks actually are overwhelmed with visitors, and there is simply no reliable evidence that “regional haze” has impacted visitation at all. See Tom Wharton, Are we loving our national parks to death? SALT LAKE TRIBUNE, April 7, 2016; National Park Service (“NPS”) visitation data, shows steady increases in visitation at Utah’s “Big Five” National Parks. See <https://irma.nps.gov/Stats/>. Steadily increasing visitation countermands claims of “regional haze” harm to local economies and driving away National Park visitors.

**Response:** DAQ agrees with this comment.

**ATTACHMENT**

**B**

Utah State Implementation Plan  
Section XX  
Regional Haze

Addressing Regional Haze Visibility Protection for the Mandatory Federal Class I Areas  
Required Under 40 CFR 51.308 and 309

Adopted by the Air Quality Board

[DATE]

**Commented [A1]:** In addition to Section XX, resubmit sections that include elements that were not approved by EPA in 2015. For example, resubmit Section IX, *Control Measures for Area and Point Sources*, where EPA did not approve, or incorporate by reference, the source specific emission limitations in Section IX.H.22, and Sections IX.H.22.a.ii-iii, IX.H.22.b.ii, and IX.H.22.c. The revised SIP submittal should stand alone.

The June 2015 SIP package included “revisions to R307-110-1 7, General Requirements: State Implementation Plan, Section IX, Control Measures for Area and Point Sources, Part H, Emissions Limits; R307-110-28, General Requirements: State Implementation Plan, Regional Haze; State Implementation Plan (SIP) Sections XX.D.6. Regional Haze. Long-Term Strategy for Stationary Sources. Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Assessment for NOx and PM; and new SIP Sections IX.H.21 and 22. General Requirements; Control Measures for Area and Point Sources, Emission Limits and Operating Practices, Regional Haze Requirements; and Source Specific Emission Limitations: Regional Haze Requirements, Best Available Retrofit Technology as adopted by the Utah Air Quality Board on June 3, 2015.”

The elements not approved or incorporated by reference by EPA are detailed in tables found in our final rule on pages 81 FR 43923 and 43924 (see comments columns).

## A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document comprises the State of Utah's State Implementation Plan (SIP) submittal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Regional Haze Rule in Sections [308 and 309](#) of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 51 (40 CFR 51.[308 and 309](#)). Part B includes introductory and background information. The remaining parts identify the SIP requirements under Sections [308 and 309](#) and detail how Utah is addressing those requirements, and appendices include more detail about certain parts. Table 1 is a brief summary of each of the [308 and 309](#) SIP requirements along with Utah's approach in addressing those requirements.

**Commented [A2]:** Should this paragraph indicate that this submittal constitutes a *revision* to Utah's regional haze SIP?

**Table 1 - Executive Summary of Long-Term Strategies**

Clean Air Corridors <i>309(d)(3)</i>	Part C documents that emission growth inside and outside of the Clean Air Corridor is not shown to be contributing currently to impairment within the Clean Air Corridor.
Stationary Sources <i>308(e) and 309(d)(4)</i>	Part D includes proof of a 13% reduction in sulfur dioxide emissions between 1990 and 2000, Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) <a href="#">Alternative</a> for NO <sub>x</sub> and PM, geographic enhancement provisions, and other stationary source materials.
Sulfur Dioxide Milestones and Backstop Trading Program <i>309(d)(4)</i>	Part E includes milestones for sulfur dioxide emissions along with a backstop market cap and trade program for sulfur dioxide emissions from specific sources.
Mobile Sources <i>309(d)(5)</i>	Part F demonstrates that federal programs (such as low sulfur diesel, vehicle emission standards, etc.) lead to decreasing mobile source emissions throughout the planning period.
Programs Related to Fire <i>309(d)(6)</i>	Part G demonstrates that Utah has developed a smoke management regulation (R307-204) that implements the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) <i>Enhanced Smoke Management Programs for Visibility Policy</i> .
Paved and Unpaved Road Dust <i>309(d)(7)</i>	Part H discusses the WRAP finding that dust emissions are not now a significant regional contributor to visibility impairment within the Colorado Plateau 16 Class I areas.

**Commented [A3]:** As noted in the staff review, EPA approved source-by-source BART for PM on July 5, 2016. Therefore, the BART Alternative only applies to NO<sub>x</sub>.

Pollution Prevention <i>309(d)(8)</i>	Part I describes programs and policies within Utah related to renewable energy and energy efficiency. Utah's anticipated contribution to the pollution prevention goals is outlined.
Additional Recommendations <i>309(d)(9)</i>	Part J summarizes that Utah has not identified any other recommendations in the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission Report to implement in Utah at this time. A report on each recommendation is included in the Utah Technical Support Document Supplement.
Projection of Visibility Improvement <i>309(d)(2)</i>	Part K projects visibility improvement for the 20% best and worst days for each of the Class I areas on the Colorado Plateau (Arches, Bryce, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, and Zion National Parks in Utah and the other 11 Class I areas in adjacent states that were addressed by the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission)
Periodic Revisions <i>309(d)(10)</i>	Part L commits the State of Utah to submit periodic revisions to this SIP every five years.
State Planning and Interstate Coordination <i>309(d)(11)</i>	Part M describes Utah's participation in the Western Regional Air Partnership.
Reasonable Progress for Additional Class I Areas <i>309(g)</i>	Utah has no additional Class I areas.

### Technical Support Documents

Accompanying this implementation plan and associated appendices are ~~two~~ other supporting documents. The first is a Technical Support Document (TSD) developed by the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) that contains the results of numerous collaborative studies by the WRAP members on which the State of Utah relied in the development of the 2003 SIP. In the implementation plan, this is referred to as the "WRAP TSD." The WRAP TSD also includes appendices. In addition, there are other supplemental materials that are state-specific technical support information, including staff reviews and modeling information. In the implementation plan, these are referred to as the "Utah TSD Supplement."<sup>3</sup>

**Commented [A4]:** Recommend making explicit reference to the 2019 NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative Staff Review somewhere in Section XX.

In 2008, the Regional Haze SIP was updated to address changes in the regional haze rule and EPA's BART Guidelines. The WRAP developed a new TSD, a Technical Support System (TSS) that contains the results of updated modeling, and an Emission Data Management System (EDMS). In the implementation plan these combined materials are referred to as the 2008 WRAP TSD and updated state-specific materials are referred to as the 2008 Utah TSD supplement.

In 2011 the SO<sub>2</sub> milestones in Part E of the SIP were revised to address a reduced number of states participating in the regional backstop trading program, and changes in growth projections for electric utilities in the west.

## **B. BACKGROUND ON THE REGIONAL HAZE RULE**

[No revisions]

## **C. LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR THE CLEAN-AIR CORRIDOR**

[No revisions]

## D. LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR STATIONARY SOURCES

1. Regulatory History and Requirements
2. Achievement of a 13% or Greater Reduction of Sulfur Dioxide Emissions by 2000
3. Strategy for Stationary Sources of Sulfur Dioxide
4. Geographic Enhancement Program
5. Report on Assessment of NO<sub>x</sub>/PM Strategies
6. Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Assessment for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM

### a. Regional Haze Rule BART Requirements

Pursuant to [40 CFR 51.308\(e\)](#) and 40 CFR 51.309(d)(4)(vii), certain major stationary sources are required to evaluate, install, operate and maintain BART technology or an approved BART alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM emissions. The State of Utah has chosen to evaluate BART for PM under the case-by-case provisions of 40 CFR 51.308(e)(1) and BART for NO<sub>x</sub> through alternative measures under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2) [and \(3\)](#). BART for SO<sub>2</sub> is addressed through an alternative program under 40 CFR 51.309 that is described in Part E of this plan.

### b. BART for Particulate Matter

[No revisions]

### c. BART for NO<sub>x</sub>

BART for NO<sub>x</sub> is addressed through alternative measures as provided under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2). The following emission reduction measures, [which include both BART and non-BART sources](#), are required, and are made enforceable through emission limits established in Section IX, Part H.21 and H.22 of the State Implementation Plan.

- PacifiCorp Hunter Units 1 and 2 and Huntington Units 1 and 2: The replacement of first generation low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with Alstom TSF 2000TM low-NO<sub>x</sub> firing system and installation of two elevations of separated overfire air with an emission limit of [0.26 lb/MMBtu](#).
- PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 3 (not subject-to-BART): The replacement of first generation low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with improved low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air with an emission limit of [0.34 lb/MMBtu](#).

**Commented [A5]:** Specify averaging period.

**Commented [A6]:** Specify averaging period.

- PacifiCorp Carbon Units 1 and 2 (not subject-to-BART): PacifiCorp shall permanently retire Carbon Units 1 and 2 by August 15, 2015.

40 CFR 51.308(e)(2) requires an analysis to demonstrate that the alternative measures achieve greater reasonable progress than would be achieved through the installation and operation of BART. This demonstration, as well as other demonstrations and information required under 51.308(e)(2), is included in the TSD.<sup>1</sup> Combined emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub> will be 1,879 tons/yr lower under the alternative than the most-stringent BART scenario for NO<sub>x</sub>. Dispersion modeling and related analysis done according to 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3), demonstrates that the alternative achieves “greater reasonable progress” by meeting both of the following two prongs: (i) visibility does not decline in any Class I area, and (ii) there is an overall improvement in visibility, determined by comparing the average differences between BART and the alternative over all affected Class I areas, visibility will improve on a greater number of days under the alternative, and the average deciview impairment and 90<sup>th</sup> percentile deciview impairment will be better under the alternative.

**Commented [A7]:** Recommend that the Staff Report include PM as is done here.

**Commented [A8]:** Since all the pollutants are not lower under the Alternative, EPA looks to the results from the modeling analysis to evaluate whether the Alternative is better than BART.

**d. BART Summary**

The BART emission limits for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM are summarized in Table 5. While Utah has chosen to meet the NO<sub>x</sub> BART requirement through alternative measures established in Section XX Part D.6 of the SIP, and the SO<sub>2</sub> BART requirement through an alternative to BART program established in Section XX Part E of the SIP, the enforceable emission limits for both NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> established in the approval orders and in the SIP for the four EGUs also meet the presumptive emission limits<sup>1</sup>rates for both NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> established in Appendix Y independently of the alternative programs.

**Commented [A9]:** The table in this section is labeled Table 2

**Commented [A10]:** The NO<sub>x</sub> BART alternative also relies on SO<sub>2</sub> reductions from Carbon, which should be acknowledged in the text and/or table.

**Commented [A11]:** Specify. Appendix Y of what?

**Commented [A12]:** It is not legally relevant that they are lower than the presumptive limits; recommend not including this statement in the SIP (it is more appropriate, although still not necessary, to include in the staff report). Also the NO<sub>x</sub> limit for Hunter 3 does not meet the presumptive limit, although that is not a BART unit.

**Table 2 - Emission Limits for the Retrofitted Hunter and Huntington Units**

Units	Utah Permitted Emission Limits			Presumptive BART Rates <sup>2</sup> Emission Limits <sup>2</sup>	
	SO <sub>2</sub> lb/MMBtu	NO <sub>x</sub> lb/MMBtu	PM lb/MMBtu	SO <sub>2</sub> lb/MMBtu	NO <sub>x</sub> lb/MMBtu
Hunter 1	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28
Hunter 2	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28
Hunter 3		0.34			
Huntington 1	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28
Huntington 2	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28

**Commented [A13]:** Indicate the averaging period for permitted emission limits.

**Commented [A14]:** Recommend deleting the presumptive limit tables because they are not relevant here.

<sup>1</sup> Review of 2008 BART Determination and Recommended Alternative to BART for NO<sub>x</sub>, Utah Division of Air Quality, February 13, 2015

<sup>2</sup> 40 CFR Part 51 Appendix Y Guidelines for BART Determinations under the Regional Haze Rule (70 Federal Register 39135)

**e. Schedule for Installation of Controls**

Pursuant to 51.308(e)(1)(C)(iv) each source subject to BART is required to install and operate BART no later than 5 years after approval of the implementation plan, and pursuant to 51.308(e)(2)(E)(3) all emission reductions necessary for a BART alternative measures must take place within the first planning period. Table 6 shows that the required schedule will be has been met for all units.

**Table 3 - Installation Schedule**

Source	Notice of Intent Submitted	Permit Issued	In Service Date
Hunter 1	June 2006	March 2008	Spring 2014
Hunter 2	June 2006	March 2008	Spring 2011
Hunter 3			Summer 2008
Huntington 1	April 2008	August 2009	Fall 2010
Huntington 2	October 2004	April 2005	Dec 2006
Carbon 1			Shut down August 2015
Carbon 2			Shut down August 2015

Utah’s long-standing Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permitting program (SIP Section VII and R307-405), New Source Review permitting program (SIP Section II and R307-401) and Visibility program (SIP section XVII and R307-406) will continue to protect Class I area visibility by ensuring that the BART emission limits established in Part H.21 and H.22 of this plan are maintained, requiring best available control technology for new sources, and assuring that there is not a significant degradation in visibility at Class I areas due to new or modified major sources.

**E. SULFUR DIOXIDE MILESTONES AND BACKSTOP TRADING PROGRAM**

[No revisions]

**F. LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR MOBILE SOURCES**

[No revisions]

**G. LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR FIRE PROGRAMS**

[No revisions]

**H. ASSESSMENT OF EMISSIONS FROM PAVED AND UNPAVED ROAD DUST**

[No revisions]

**I. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMS**

[No revisions]

**J. OTHER GCVTC RECOMMENDATIONS**

[No revisions]

**K. PROJECTION OF VISIBILITY IMPROVEMENT ANTICIPATED FROM LONG-TERM STRATEGY**

[No revisions]

**L. PERIODIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN REVISIONS**

[No revisions]

**M. STATE PLANNING/INTERSTATE COORDINATION AND TRIBAL IMPLEMENTATION**

[No revisions]

**N. ENFORCEABLE COMMITMENTS FOR THE UTAH REGIONAL HAZE SIP**

[No revisions]

Staff Review  
Recommended Alternative to BART for  
NO<sub>x</sub>

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*Utah Division of Air Quality*

*January 14, 2019*

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**Purpose**

On December 14, 2012, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) disapproved the Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) determination for nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and particulate matter (PM) that was adopted in Utah's 2008 Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (RH SIP). On June 4, 2015, Utah submitted PM BART and BART alternative for NO<sub>x</sub>. EPA approved the BART for PM on July 5, 2016 but disapproved the BART alternative for NO<sub>x</sub>. The purpose of this analysis is to provide additional documentation and support to the BART alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> and to demonstrate that the alternative will provide greater visibility improvement than would be achieved through the installation of the most stringent NO<sub>x</sub> controls on the four electrical generating units (EGU) that are subject to BART.

**Commented [A1]:** Throughout, recommend that this Staff Report make clear that the demonstration of greater reasonable progress rests on the two-prong approach and not WOE.

**Commented [A2]:** This language ("to provide additional documentation") implies that the BART alternative would continue to rely on the WOE analysis from the June 4, 2015 SIP. Recommend striking this language.

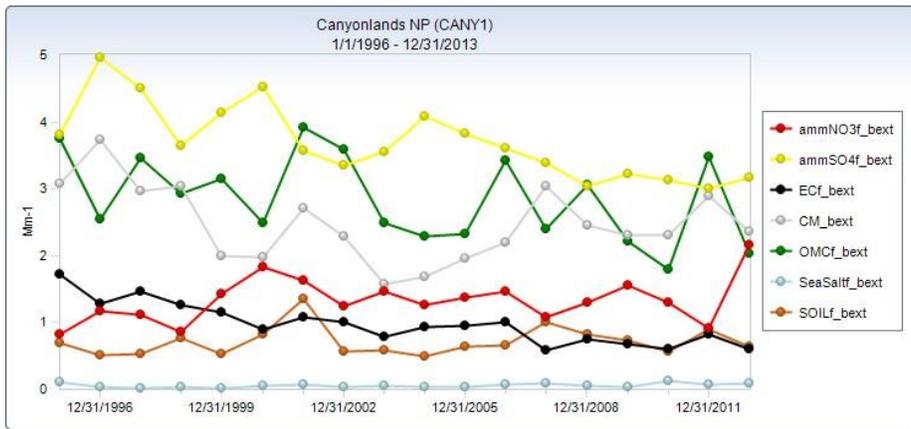
**Commented [A3]:** The greater visibility improvement demonstration is just one requirement for BART alternatives under 51.308(e)(2)(i)/(e)(3). This staff review also addresses the other applicable BART alternative requirements under 308(e)(2).

**History**

Utah's RH SIP, originally adopted in 2003, was based on the recommendations of the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission (GCVTC). The GCVTC evaluated haze at Class I areas on the Colorado Plateau, and determined that stationary source reductions should be focused on sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) because it is the pollutant that has the most significant impact on haze on the Colorado Plateau. Utah's 2008 BART determination was developed within the context of the overall SIP and reflected this focus on SO<sub>2</sub>. Figure 1 shows the contributions of various species to visibility impairment at Canyonlands National Park. As can be seen, sulfate (ammSO<sub>4</sub>) is the most significant contributor to haze. Fire (OMC) and dust (CM) are also significant components, but their impact is variable from year to year.

**Commented [A4]:** Superseded by 2011 SIP in relation to NO<sub>x</sub> and PM BART. See subsequent comments here.

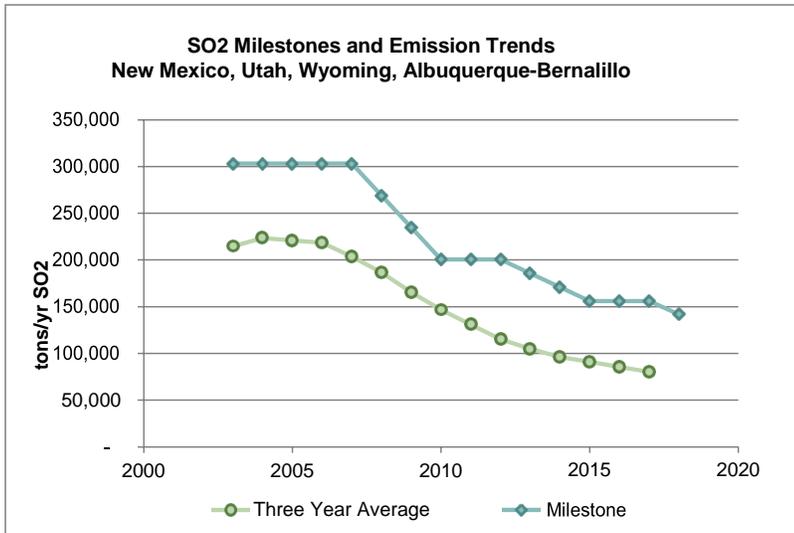
**Figure 1 Speciated Annual Average Light Extinction at Canyonlands**



Utah's 2003 RH SIP included SO<sub>2</sub> emission milestones with a backstop regulatory trading program to ensure that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the transport region decreased substantially between 2003 and 2018. The milestones were adjusted in 2008 and 2011 to reflect changes in the

number of states participating in the regional program. In the current three-state region, actual SO<sub>2</sub> emissions decreased by 64% between 2003 and 2017. In 2017, emissions were significantly below the 2018 milestone in Utah's RH SIP (See Figure 2).

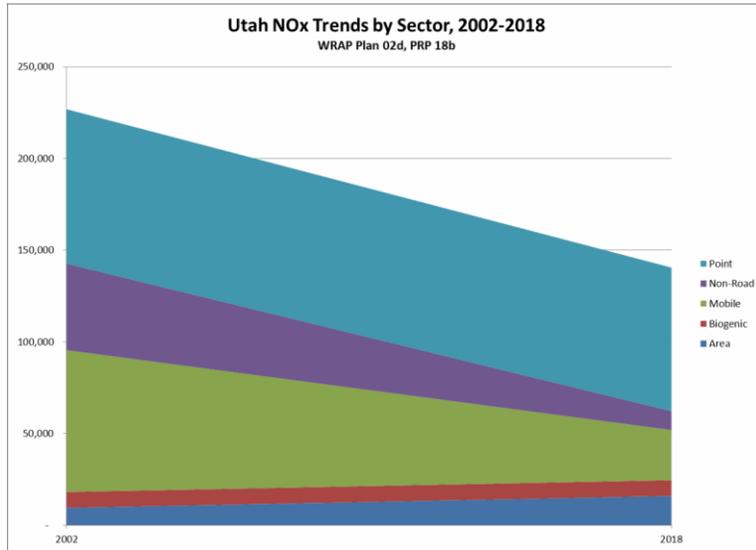
**Figure 2 SO<sub>2</sub> Milestones and Emission Trends**



While Utah's RH SIP is focused on achieving SO<sub>2</sub> reductions from stationary sources, substantial reductions in nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions will also occur from stationary sources as well as mobile and non-road sources. Figure 3 shows the projected decrease in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions between 2002 and 2018 as documented in Section K of Utah's 2008 RH SIP.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> WRAP Plan 02d and PRP 18b inventory (PRP 18a mobile)  
<http://vista.cira.colostate.edu/TSS/Results/Emissions.aspx>

Figure 3 Utah RH SIP Expected NO<sub>x</sub> Reductions 2002-2018



### BART Determination in 2008 RH SIP

On September 3, 2008, the Utah Air Quality Board adopted a revision to Utah’s RH SIP to include Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) requirements for NO<sub>x</sub> and particulate matter (PM) as required by 40 CFR 51.309(d)(4)(vii). PacifiCorp’s Hunter Unit 1, Hunter Unit 2, Huntington Unit 1, and Huntington Unit 2 fossil fuel fired electric generating units (EGUs) were determined to be subject to BART. The 2008 RH SIP required PacifiCorp to install the following BART controls at these EGUs:

Hunter Units 1 and 2:

- Conversion of electrostatic precipitators to pulse jet fabric filter bag-houses.
- The replacement of first generation low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with Alstom TSF 2000™ low-NO<sub>x</sub> firing system and installation of two elevations of separated overfire air.
- Upgrade of flue gas desulfurization system to > 90% sulfur dioxide removal.

Huntington Units 1 and 2:

- Conversion of electrostatic precipitators to pulse jet fabric filter bag-houses.
- The replacement of first generation low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with Alstom TSF 2000™ low-NO<sub>x</sub> firing system and installation of two elevations of separated overfire air.
- Installation of a new wet-lime, flue gas de-sulfurization system at Unit 2 (FGD).
- Upgrade of flue gas desulfurization system to > 90% sulfur dioxide removal at Unit 1.

**Commented [A5]:** Here and throughout, the relevant portions of the 2008 SIP, including NO<sub>x</sub> and PM BART, were superseded by the 2011 SIP. In 2012, EPA acted on the 2011 SIP, not the 2008 SIP, in relation to NO<sub>x</sub> and PM BART. See final rule at 77 FR 74357, center column. Please revise accordingly.

**Commented [A6]:** As above, 2008 vs 2011 SIP.

**Commented [A7]:** Clarify whether these SO<sub>2</sub> controls, and any associated emission limits, were required under BART / are explicitly part of the SIP, as opposed to simply installed in conjunction with the SO<sub>2</sub> milestone/backstop program.

**Commented [A8]:** Same as above.

The emission ~~limits~~~~rates~~ established in the 2008 RH SIP for Hunter Units 1 and 2 and Huntington Units 1 and 2 were more stringent than the presumptive BART emission ~~limits~~~~rates~~ for SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> established in 40 CFR Part 51 Appendix Y, Guidelines for BART Determinations under the Regional Haze Rule as shown in Table 1.

**Commented [A9]:** As above, 2008 vs 2011 SIP

**Commented [A10]:** We suggest striking this because BART emission limits must be established through a five-factor analysis. It is not sufficient that the BART emission limits are more stringent than the presumptive emission limits. See our comments on the 2015 SIP on this same point.

**Table 1 BART Emission ~~Rates~~~~Limits~~ in Utah's 2008 SIP**

Units	Utah Permitted <del>Limits</del> <del>Rates</del> <sup>2</sup> (lb/MMBtu)			Presumptive BART Limits <sup>3</sup> (lb/MMBtu)		Year of Installation
	SO <sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>	NO <sub>x</sub> <sup>a</sup>	PM	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	
Hunter 1	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28	2014
Hunter 2	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28	2011
Huntington 1	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28	2010
Huntington 2	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28	2006

<sup>a</sup>30-day rolling average

### Partial Approval, Partial Disapproval of Utah's Regional Haze SIP

On December 14, 2012, EPA approved the majority of Utah's Regional Haze SIP ~~submittal(s)~~ but disapproved Utah's BART determinations for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM for PacifiCorp's Hunter Unit 1, Hunter Unit 2, Huntington Unit 1, and Huntington Unit 2<sup>4</sup>. EPA determined that the SIP did not comply with regulations under 40 C.F.R. 51.308(e)(1) and did not contain the necessary provisions to make BART limits practically enforceable as required by section 110(a)(2) of the Clean Air Act and Appendix V to 40 C.F.R. Part 51.<sup>5</sup> ~~The imposed controls themselves were not disapproved by EPA; rather EPA disapproved the SIP submittal's analysis of those controls as BART.~~ Prior to EPA's disapproval, Utah's BART determination was in place and enforceable under state law and state permits. The required controls were installed and operating on three of the four EGUs prior to EPA's proposed disapproval and were installed on the 4<sup>th</sup> EGU in 2014 as required ~~by Utah's SIP~~ under state law.

**Commented [A11]:** Clarify that EPA acted on portions of both the 2008 and 2011 SIP submittals. See above.

**Commented [A12]:** This edit is intended to clarify and reinforce the point that EPA's disapproval applies to the *submittal*, rather than to any set of *controls*

**Commented [A13]:** Utah's SIP is the collection of federally enforceable requirements. In this case, the controls were required under state law, as opposed to under the SIP.

On June 4, 2015, Utah re-proposed its SIP for PM BART and submitted a BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> for the same PacifiCorp's Electrical Generating Units.<sup>6</sup> On January 14, 2016, EPA issued a proposed rule containing a proposal to approve the PM BART and a co-proposal to either approve or disapprove the BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> and to impose a FIP requiring BART for NO<sub>x</sub> in the event of the disapproval.<sup>7</sup> On July 5, 2016, EPA issued the final rule disapproving the

<sup>2</sup> Utah Division of Air Quality Approval Orders: Huntington Unit 2 - AN0238012-05, Huntington Unit 1 - DAQE-AN0102380019-09 (note – on January 19, 2010 an administrative amendment was made to the 2009 AO), Hunter Units I and 2 - DAQE-AN0102370012-08.

<sup>3</sup> 40 CFR Part 51 Appendix Y Regional Haze Regulations and Guidelines for Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Determinations, 70 Fed. Reg. 39104, 39135 (July 6, 2005).

<sup>4</sup> 77 Fed. Reg. 74,355 (Dec. 14, 2012).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 74,357.

<sup>6</sup> 81 Fed. Reg. 43,894 (July 5, 2016).

<sup>7</sup> 81 Fed. Reg. 2,004, 2,007 (Jan. 14, 2016).

BART alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> and approving the BART for PM portion of the June 4, 2015 SIP.<sup>8</sup> To replace the disapproved BART alternative, EPA promulgated a FIP, requiring installation of Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) controls on the subject EGUs by August of 2021.<sup>9</sup>

Utah filed a lawsuit against EPA challenging the July 5, 2016 disapproval of BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> in the Tenth Circuit on September 1, 2016.<sup>10</sup> This litigation has been in abeyance since September 11, 2017, and the final rule requiring SCR installation is stayed.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> 81 Fed. Reg. 43,894 (July 5, 2016).

<sup>9</sup> *Id.* at 43,907.

<sup>10</sup> *See Utah v. EPA*, No. 16-9541, Petition for Review (Sept. 1, 2016).

<sup>11</sup> *See id.*, Order (Sept. 11, 2017); *see also id.*, Order Filed by the Clerk of the Court (Dec. 11, 2018) (continuing to hold appeal in abeyance).

## Alternative to BART for NOx

*40 CFR 51.308(e)(2) A State may opt to implement or require participation in an emissions trading program or other alternative measure rather than to require sources subject to BART to install, operate, and maintain BART. Such an emissions trading program or other alternative measure must achieve greater reasonable progress than would be achieved through the installation and operation of BART. For all such emission trading programs or other alternative measures, the State must submit an implementation plan containing the following plan elements and include documentation for all required analyses:*

Utah has opted to establish an alternative measure for NO<sub>x</sub> as provided in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2).<sup>12</sup> The alternative measure requires the installation of low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air with an emission limit more stringent than the presumptive BART emission limit at the four EGUs that are subject-to-BART, and additional reductions of visibility impairing pollutants from three EGUs that are not subject to BART: PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 3, PacifiCorp Carbon Unit 1, and PacifiCorp Carbon Unit 2. All controls required under the BART alternative have been accomplished. Specifically, the BART NO<sub>x</sub> alternative requires:

**PacifiCorp Hunter Units 1 and 2 and PacifiCorp Huntington Units 1 and 2:** the replacement of first generation low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with Alstom TSF 2000<sup>TM</sup> low-NO<sub>x</sub> firing system and installation of two elevations of separated overfire air.

**PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 3** (not subject-to-BART): the replacement of first generation low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with upgraded low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air.

**PacifiCorp Carbon Units 1 and 2** (not subject-to-BART): permanent closure of both units by August 15, 2015 and rescission of the plant's operating permit by December 31, 2015.

PacifiCorp shut down the Carbon Power Plant in 2015 due to the high cost of controlling mercury to meet the requirements of EPA's Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS). The MATS rule was finalized in 2011, well after the 2002 base year for Utah's RH SIP; therefore, any reductions required to meet the MATS rule may be considered as part of an alternative strategy under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(vi). This plant is located about 30 miles northeast of the Huntington

**Commented [A14]:** BART alternatives require emission reductions/limits, as opposed to specific controls. Therefore, recommend specifying emission limits and averaging periods like in Section XX.

**Commented [A15]:** Should be (iv).

<sup>12</sup> Greater reasonable progress can be demonstrated using one of three methods: (i) "greater emission reductions" than under BART; (ii) "conduct dispersion modeling" for the "worst and best 20 percent days" to "demonstrate „greater reasonable progress;"" (40 C.F.R. §51.308(e)(3)); or (iii) "based on the clear weight of evidence" (40 C.F.R. §51.308(e)(2)(E)). As the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit recently observed, the state is free to choose one method or the other. *WildEarth Guardians v. E.P.A.*, 770 F.3d 919, 935-37 (10th Cir. 2014). The court characterized the former approaches as a "quantitative" and the later as "qualitative," and specifically sanctioned the use of qualitative factors under the clear weight of evidence. The State believes that the NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative would qualify under either the "dispersion modeling" or "weight of evidence" test, but has focused here on the "quantitative" approach using "dispersion modeling."

Plant and about 40 miles northeast of the Hunter Plant and its emissions impact the same general area as the Hunter and Huntington Plants. Average SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the Carbon Plant in 2012-13 were 8,005 tons/yr, and average NO<sub>x</sub> emissions were 3,342 tons/yr. PacifiCorp and ultimately Utah rate payers must pay the cost to replace the electricity generated by this plant, but there will also be a visibility benefit due to the emission reductions. Overall emission reductions of SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> due to the closure of this plant and the other NO<sub>x</sub> controls installed on Hunter Units 1, 2, and 3, and Huntington Units 1 and 2, are greater than the NO<sub>x</sub> reductions that could be achieved by installing the most stringent NO<sub>x</sub> control, SCR, on the four subject-to-BART EGUs and the emission reductions will occur close to the location of the Hunter and Huntington plants.

While PacifiCorp had plans to shut down the Carbon Plant, the decision was not enforceable, and PacifiCorp could have chosen to meet the MATS requirements through other measures. An enforceable requirement in the RH SIP to permanently close the Carbon Plant as part of an alternative to BART locks in substantial emission reductions.

**Commented [A16]:** Suggest striking this paragraph because emission reduction projections are addressed in a later section and so are redundant here.

If this paragraph remains, note that the 2012-2013 values are attached to the old WOE SIP. Thus, suggest reconciling this with the baseline emissions used in the AECOM two-prong modeling. That is, recommend using 2001-2003 average emissions as opposed to 2012-13 average emissions. The 2001-2003 emissions are given in Table 2 below.

Also, if paragraph remains, indicate source of data (i.e., CAMD).

**Commented [A17]:** Suggest deleting this paragraph because it is not sufficient that SO<sub>2</sub>+NO<sub>x</sub> (and PM) reductions are greater under the BART alternative. That is, because SO<sub>2</sub> reductions are being substituted for NO<sub>x</sub> reductions, two-prong test modeling is needed to determine whether the BART alternative achieves greater reasonable progress.

## **BART-eligible Sources Covered by Alternative Measure for NOx**

*40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(i)(A) A list of all BART-eligible sources within the state.*

*40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(i)(B) A list of all BART-eligible sources and all BART source categories covered by the alternative program. The state is not required to include every BART source category or every BART-eligible source with a BART source category in an alternative program, but each BART-eligible source in the state must be subject to the requirements of the alternative program, have a federally enforceable emission limitation determined by the state and approved by EPA as meeting BART in accordance with section 302(c) or paragraph (e)(1) of this section, or otherwise addressed under paragraphs (e)(1) or (e)(4) of this section.*

Four EGUs were the only BART-eligible sources identified in Utah's 2008 RH SIP. All four of these EGUs are covered by the alternative program.

- PacifiCorp Hunter, Unit 1
- PacifiCorp Hunter, Unit 2
- PacifiCorp Huntington, Unit 1
- PacifiCorp Huntington, Unit 2

The Alternative Measure also includes "non-BART sources" (i.e., Carbon Unit 1 and Unit 2 (PM, NOx and SO<sub>2</sub>) and Hunter Unit 3 (NOx)).

## NOx emission reductions achievable

*40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(i)(C) An analysis of the best system of continuous emission control technology available and associated emission reductions achievable for each source within the state subject to BART and covered by the alternative program. This analysis must be conducted by making a determination of BART for each source subject to BART and covered by the alternative program as provided for in paragraph (e)(1) of this section, unless the emissions trading program or other alternative measure has been designed to meet a requirement other than BART (such as the core requirement to have a long-term strategy to achieve the reasonable progress goals established by the states). In this case, the state may determine the best system of continuous emission control technology and associated emission reductions for similar types of sources within a source category based on both source-specific and category-wide information, as appropriate.*

In June 2012, PacifiCorp prepared a new 5-factor BART analysis to satisfy the requirements of the BART rule. PacifiCorp submitted an update to that analysis on August 5, 2014 to address issues that EPA had raised with other regional haze SIPs. The technologies identified in the analysis range from the currently required low NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air (presumptive BART) to the most-stringent NO<sub>x</sub> technology (SCR + low NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air). DAQ reviewed PacifiCorp's analysis and agreed that SCR + low NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air with an annual emission rate of 0.05 lb/MMBtu was the most stringent technology available to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from the four subject-to-BART EGUs.<sup>13</sup> This technology is very expensive to install on the subject-to-BART EGUs considering their current configuration and the unique characteristics of Utah's coal and would require careful consideration through a case-by-case 5-factor analysis before determining if it was cost effective. However, this technology can be used as a stringent benchmark for comparison with an alternative program. DAQ's use of this technology as a benchmark is not a determination that this technology is BART; it is merely a conservative approach to evaluate the effectiveness of the alternative program (see Table 2).

**Commented [A18]:** Suggested clarifying that this is currently a State law requirement only. That is, the requirement is not in an approved SIP.

**Commented [A19]:** See comment above regarding presumptive limits for BART.

**Commented [A20]:** Not clear how to interpret this footnote. Suggest striking it. If the footnote remains, suggest pointing to instances where EPA has used 0.05 lb/MMBtu as the estimated annual emission rate for analysis purposes --- this in contrast to the 30-day rolling average emission limit. See our final rules for Utah and Wyoming.

<sup>13</sup> EPA has used a 0.05 lb/MMBtu NO<sub>x</sub> emissions rate for SCR for other regional haze SIP analyses, recently in New Mexico and Arizona. See e.g., 79 Fed. Reg. 60,978, 60,984 (New Mexico, Oct. 9 2014) ("In promulgating the FIP, we evaluated the performance of both new and retrofit SCRs and determined that 0.05 lb/MMBtu on a 30-boiler-operating-day average was the appropriate emission limit for SCR at the San Juan Generating Station units. See 76 Fed. Reg. 491 and 76 Fed. Reg. 52,388. New Mexico appropriately used this same rate in their cost and visibility analyses for the four-SCR scenario as part of its BART evaluation."); 79 Fed. Reg. 52,420, 52,431 (Arizona, Sept. 3, 2014) ("We agree that our use of a 0.05 lb/MMBtu annual average design value for SCR is consistent with other BART determinations for coal-fired power plants."). EPA has agreed that even higher NO<sub>x</sub> emission limits can qualify as the most stringent emission rate for modeling visibility impacts. For example, EPA accepted state-mandated SCR emission limits of 0.07 and 0.08 lb/MMBtu (30-day rolling average) in Colorado, as well as its SCR related analyses based on 0.07. See 77 Fed. Reg. 76,871 (Colorado, Dec. 21, 2012). EPA also used 0.083 to 0.098 for the Reid Gardner Station in Nevada. 77 Fed. Reg. 50,936, 50,942 (Nevada, Aug. 23, 2012).

## Projected Emission Reductions from Alternative Measures

40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(i)(D) An analysis of the projected emissions reductions achievable through the trading program or other alternative measure.

Table 2 shows the estimated annual emissions in 2025 for NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> for the baseline, the most stringent NO<sub>x</sub> scenario, and the alternative measure. The Baseline modeling scenario represents the emission values in the future year (2025) before any additional control technology (other than controls that were in operation during the PacifiCorp power plants baseline period of 2001-2003) was placed on any of the PacifiCorp units to reduce emissions. EPA's FIP issued on July 5, 2016 required the same controls as the most stringent technology. These controls are described in the previous section of this staff review. Annual emissions of other haze causing pollutants can be found in Appendix A. While NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are higher under the alternative measure, emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> are lower under the alternative measure. Combined emissions of both pollutants are 1,576 tons/yr lower under the alternative measure.<sup>14</sup>

**Table 2** Estimated emissions under the 2025 Baseline Scenario, EPA FIP (most stringent NO<sub>x</sub> scenario), and the Alternative scenario

Units	NO <sub>x</sub> (tpy)			SO <sub>2</sub> (tpy)			Combined		
	2025 Baseline	EPA FIP	Alternative	2025 Baseline	EPA FIP	Alternative	2025 Baseline	EPA FIP	Alternative
Carbon 1	1,312	1,312	0	2,286	2,286	0	3,598	3,598	0
Carbon 2	1,977	1,977	0	3,528	3,528	0	5,505	5,505	0
Hunter 1	6,380	796	3,166	2,535	1,153	1,153	8,915	1,949	4,319
Hunter 2	6,092	798	3,028	2,531	1,408	1,408	8,623	2,206	4,436
Hunter 3	6,530	6,530	4,490	1,204	1,230	1,230	7,734	7,760	5,720
Huntington 1	5,944	793	3,147	2,380	1,254	1,254	8,324	2,047	4,401
Huntington 2	5,816	753	3,366	12,308	1,201	1,201	18,124	1,954	4,567
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,051</b>	<b>12,959</b>	<b>17,197</b>	<b>26,772</b>	<b>12,060</b>	<b>6,246</b>	<b>60,823</b>	<b>25,019</b>	<b>23,443</b>

### Continued Focus on SO<sub>2</sub> Reductions

Utah's 2003 RH SIP focused on SO<sub>2</sub> reductions because SO<sub>2</sub> has the greatest overall impact at Class I areas on the Colorado Plateau and revisions in 2008 and 2011 continued this focus. The alternative measures enhance that approach through additional, significant emission reductions of over 8,000 tons/yr SO<sub>2</sub> due to the closure of the Carbon Plant. Figure 1 shows that sulfates are the dominant visibility impairing pollutant at Canyonlands, the Class I area with the greatest

<sup>14</sup> EPA has approved, or proposed approval, of other BART alternatives that included "inter-pollutant trading" when SO<sub>2</sub> levels were lowered. 79 Fed. Reg. 33,438, 33,440-41 (Washington, June 11, 2014); 79 Fed. Reg. 56,322, 56,328 (Arizona, Sept. 19, 2014).

**Commented [A21]:** Throughout, and even though this is not an alternative for PM BART, consider also describing the PM reductions (~300 tpy on PM10 basis) because they are included in the modeling used to show greater reasonable progress. These are the PM reductions associated with the Carbon Power Plant Shutdown.

**Commented [A22]:** Consider explaining why 2025 has been chosen as the future year when the first planning period ends in 2018. That is, it was chosen because it was available through the WAQS study.

**Commented [A23]:** Same comment as above regarding taking credit for combining emissions. That is, even if total emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>+NO<sub>x</sub> (and PM) are lower under the BART alternative, modeling is necessary because NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are higher under the BART alternative.

**Commented [A24]:** Add PM to be consistent with Section XX language ("Combined emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, and PM10 will be 1,879 tons/yr lower under the alternative than the most-stringent BART scenario for NO<sub>x</sub>.")

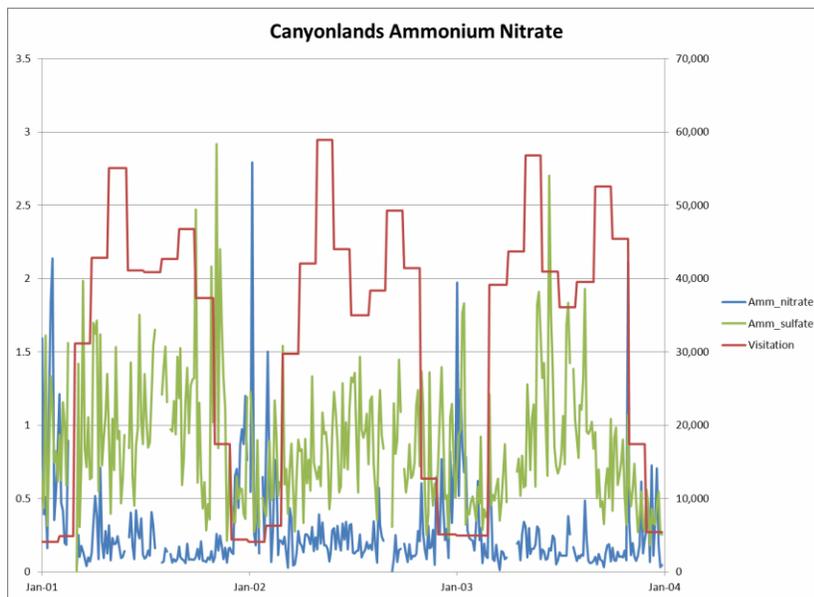
**Commented [A25]:** Note that these approvals were based on modeling such that the relative benefits of SO<sub>2</sub> vs NO<sub>x</sub> reductions were addressed. That is, it isn't sufficient that the sum of SO<sub>2</sub>+NO<sub>x</sub> (and PM) emission reductions are greater under an alternative. The reductions of EACH pollutant must be lower in order to use the emissions test.

**Commented [A26]:** Indicate source of emissions data is CAMD.

**Commented [A27]:** Recommend that, if this information remains, make clear that the determination of greater reasonable progress relies solely on the two-prong test (and not WOE).

overall impact from the four subject-to-BART sources. Figure 4 shows that sulfates affect visibility throughout the year and are the dominant visibility impairing pollutant from anthropogenic sources during the high visitation period of March through November. Similar results are seen at the other Class I areas and are documented in the TSD.

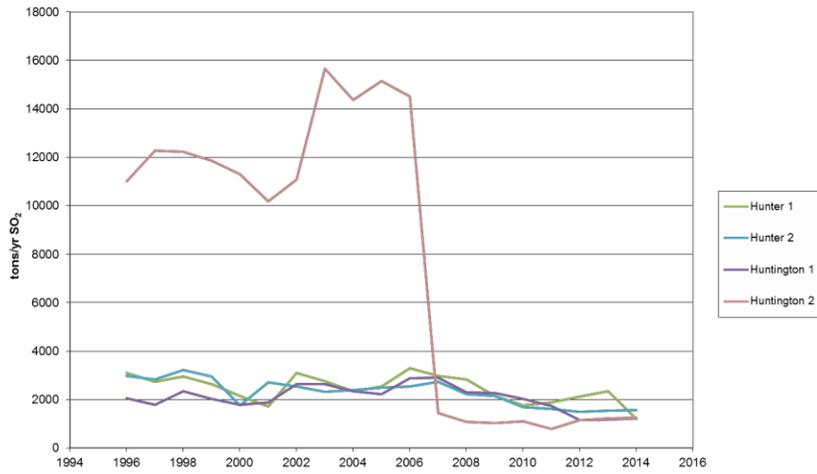
**Figure 4 Canyonlands ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate**



DAQ has confidence that SO<sub>2</sub> reductions will achieve meaningful visibility improvement. The visibility improvement during the winter months due to NO<sub>x</sub> reductions is much more uncertain. Figure 5 shows the significant emission reductions of both SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> that have occurred from the four subject-to-BART EGUs over the last 15 years.

Figure 5 SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions Trends

### SO<sub>2</sub> Emission Trends Utah Subject to BART EGUs



### NO<sub>x</sub> Emission Trends Utah Subject-to-BART EGUs



## Greater Reasonable Progress than BART

*40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(i) A demonstration that the emissions trading program or other alternative measure will achieve greater reasonable progress than would have resulted from the installation and operation of BART at all sources subject to BART in the State and covered by the alternative program. This demonstration must be based on the following:*

*(E) A determination under paragraph (e)(3) of this section or otherwise based on the clear weight of evidence that the trading program or other alternative measure achieves greater reasonable progress than would be achieved through the installation and operation of BART at the covered sources.*

*40 CFR 51.308(e)(3) A State which opts under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2) to implement an emissions trading program or other alternative measure rather than to require sources subject to BART to install, operate, and maintain BART may satisfy the final step of the demonstration required by that section as follows: If the distribution of emissions is not substantially different than under BART, and the alternative measure results in greater emission reductions, then the alternative measure may be deemed to achieve greater reasonable progress. If the distribution of emissions is significantly different, the State must conduct dispersion modeling to determine differences in visibility between BART and the trading program for each impacted Class I area, for the worst and best 20 percent of days. The modeling would demonstrate "greater reasonable progress" if both of the following two criteria are met:*

*(i) Visibility does not decline in any Class I area, and*

*(ii) There is an overall improvement in visibility, determined by comparing the average differences between BART and the alternative over all affected Class I areas.*

The Hunter, Huntington, and Carbon plants are all located within 40 miles of each other in Central Utah. Because of the close proximity of the three plants, the distribution of emissions will not be substantially different under the alternative program. The combined emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> are 1,576 tons/yr lower under the alternative measure. Therefore, the alternative measure may be deemed to achieve greater reasonable progress than BART.

However, because the emission reductions under the BART alternative included reductions of SO<sub>2</sub> in addition to reductions of NO<sub>x</sub>, visibility improvement under the two scenarios could occur during different episodes and during different times of the year. For this reason, Utah chose to treat the distribution of emissions as significantly different than under BART. Utah chose to demonstrate greater reasonable progress by conducting dispersion modeling that shows the alternative to BART meets the two prong test required by 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3).

**Commented [A28]:** This is incorrect, strike language. As noted in comment bubbles above, it isn't sufficient that total SO<sub>2</sub>+NO<sub>x</sub> (and PM) is lower under the BART alternative when assessing greater reasonable progress. Instead, the emissions of EACH pollutant must be lower under the BART alternative. This is because the trade-off between SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> reductions requires application of the two-prong test via modeling. NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are higher under the BART alternative.

**Commented [A29]:** The preamble to the BART Guidelines reveals that the distribution of emissions refers to the geographic, not temporal, distribution of emissions. For example, see 70 FR 39137-39138. Therefore, recommend that the need for dispersion modeling be based on the fact that SO<sub>2</sub> reductions are being offered in lieu of NO<sub>x</sub> reductions (regardless of temporal considerations). This is consistent with the position EPA has taken in other actions.

The two prong test requires an assessment of degradation of visibility at each Class I area in the modeling domain relative to the baseline (prong 1) and average visibility improvement across all Class I areas relative to BART (prong 2). Both prongs are assessed for the 20% best days and 20% worst days.

PacifiCorp, at DAQ’s direction and supervision, conducted dispersion modeling in 2018 using the Comprehensive Air Quality Model with extensions (CAMx) to compare the visibility improvement anticipated under the alternative measure with the visibility improvement under the most stringent NO<sub>x</sub> technology. CAMx is a photochemical grid model (PGM) with the capabilities to estimate the concentrations of pollutants that contribute to regional haze. It has a technical formulation that is considered more realistic than that of CALPUFF, and CAMx predicts more accurate changes in light extinction as a result to changes in emissions from EGU’s. A full description of the CAMx modeling platform used and the modeling results are included in Appendix A.

**Commented [A30]:** Recommend adding footnote reference to the AECOM report.

**Commented [A31]:** Suggest adding reference to Appendix W preamble to support this claim. For example, see 82 FR 5196.

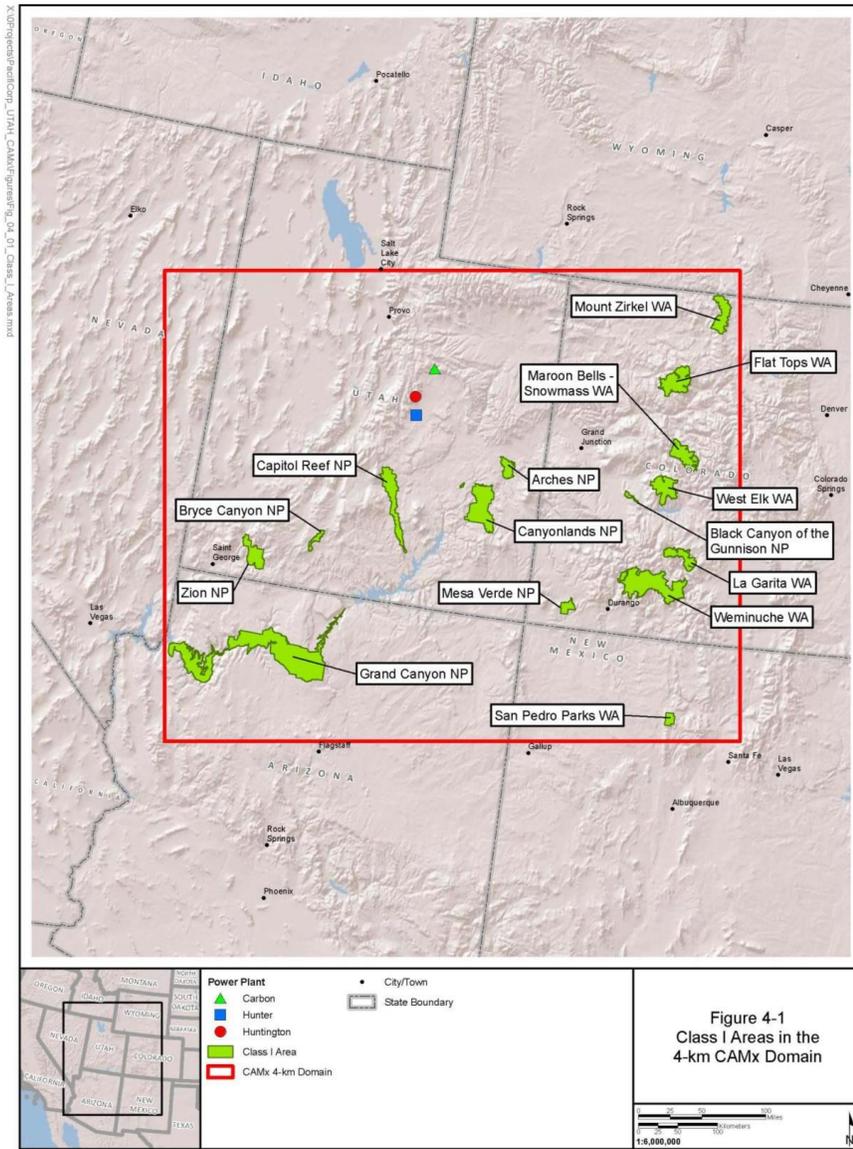
The seven EGUs shown in Table 3 EGU’s analyzed with CAMx Table 3 were included in the modeling. The following 15 Class I areas, shown graphically in Figure 6, were included in the modeling domain:

1. Grand Canyon National Park (NP)
2. Arches NP
3. Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP
4. Bryce Canyon NP
5. Canyonlands NP
6. Capitol Reef NP
7. Mesa Verde NP
8. Zion NP
9. Flat Tops Wilderness Area (WA)
10. Mount Zirkel WA
11. Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA
12. West Elk WA
13. La Garita WA
14. Weminuche WA
15. San Pedro Parks WA

**Table 3 EGU’s analyzed with CAMx**

Company Name	Plant Name	Units
PacifiCorp	Hunter	Boilers #1,2,3
PacifiCorp	Huntington	Boilers #1,2
PacifiCorp	Carbon	Boilers #1,2

Figure 6 Class I areas within the CAMx modeling domain



### Prong 1: Visibility does not decline in any Class I area

The visibility impacts derived from the 2018 CAMx modeling results are summarized in Tables 4 and 5. The tables show the projected contribution to visibility on the 20 percent best days and worst days respectively for the Baseline, the EPA FIP, and the proposed BART alternative scenarios at each of the Class I areas analyzed. The last two columns show the predicted visibility benefits from the BART alternative scenario relative to both the baseline and the FIP. At the bottom of each table are the average visibility values from all the Class I areas. Negative values in the last two columns indicate that the BART alternative has smaller contributions to visibility impairment relative to the baseline and the FIP.

Column D in Table 4 shows that emissions from the seven EGUs under the BART alternative will not result in degradation of visibility on the 20 percent best days compared to the Baseline at any one of the 15 Class I areas. ~~In general, the BART alternative scenario shows an average improvement in visibility of 0.00494 dv relative to the EPA FIP for the 20 percent best days. Similarly, Column D in~~ Table 5 shows that, on the 20 percent worst days, visibility impairment is less under the BART alternative than the baseline in each of the Class I areas. Therefore, the BART alternative meets prong 1 of the “greater reasonable progress using dispersion modeling” test found in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3).

Commented [A32]: This is better placed in the Prong 2 discussion.

**Table 4 Visibility Impacts for the, EPA FIP and BART alternative Scenarios on the 20 Percent Best Days**

Class I area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] EPA FIP (dv)	[C] BART alternative (dv)	[D] BART alternative - Baseline	[E] BART alternative - EPA FIP
Arches NP	0.10300	0.05607	0.03851	-0.06449	-0.01756
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
Bryce Canyon NP	0.00528	0.00254	0.00228	-0.00300	-0.00026
Canyonlands NP	0.10300	0.05607	0.03851	-0.06449	-0.01756
Capitol Reef NP	0.14218	0.07222	0.07140	-0.07078	-0.00082
Flat Tops WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Grand Canyon NP	0.07136	0.03567	0.03611	-0.03525	0.00044
La Garita WA	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Mesa Verde NP	0.06356	0.03381	0.02749	-0.03607	-0.00632
Mount Zirkel WA	0.04209	0.02060	0.01471	-0.02738	-0.00589
San Pedro Parks WA	0.03627	0.01742	0.01593	-0.02034	-0.00149
Weminuche WA	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
West Elk WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Zion NP <sup>1</sup>	0.00612	0.00291	0.00300	-0.00312	0.00009
<b>All Class I area Average</b>	<b>0.04940</b>	<b>0.02602</b>	<b>0.02108</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00494</b>

<sup>1</sup> Results based on incomplete dataset. Zion NP monitor did not meet the 75% data completion SMAT requirement for year 2011.

## Prong 2: An overall improvement in visibility

A determination of whether the BART alternative meets prong 2 of the “greater reasonable progress using dispersion modeling” test found in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3) is made by comparing the average difference between the alternative and BART. As explained previously, Utah considers the EPA July 5, 2016 FIP requirements as the most stringent control technology but used them in this analysis as a substitute for BART. The last row of column E in Tables 4 and 5 show the average difference in visibility between the BART alternative and the FIP for the 20 percent best and worst days respectively. The negative number indicates that the average visibility impact of the BART alternative is less than the FIP in both cases. Relative to the EPA FIP, the BART alternative achieves an overall visibility improvement of 0.00494 dv on the 20 percent best days, and of 0.0058 dv on the 20 percent worst days. Therefore, the BART alternative meets prong 2 of 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3).

**Table 5 Visibility Impacts for the EPA FIP and BART alternative Scenarios on the 20 Percent Worst Days**

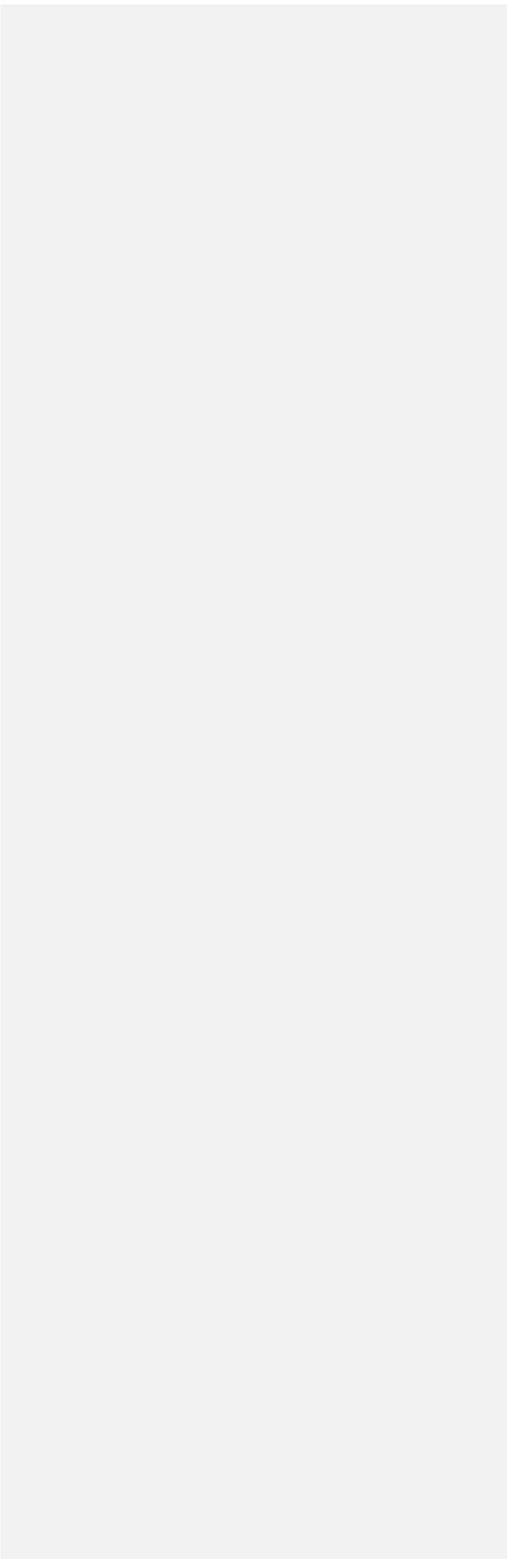
Class I area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] EPA FIP (dv)	[C] BART alternative (dv)	[D] BART alternative - Baseline	[E] BART alternative - EPA FIP
Arches NP	0.25740	0.13780	0.12584	-0.13156	-0.01196
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
Bryce Canyon NP	0.04945	0.02184	0.02470	-0.02475	0.00286
Canyonlands NP	0.25740	0.13780	0.12584	-0.13156	-0.01196
Capitol Reef NP	0.26010	0.11672	0.14568	-0.11442	0.02896
Flat Tops WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Grand Canyon NP	0.00186	0.00089	0.00056	-0.00130	-0.00033
La Garita WA	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Mesa Verde NP	0.06203	0.02524	0.02959	-0.03244	0.00435
Mount Zirkel WA	0.03312	0.01705	0.01198	-0.02114	-0.00507
San Pedro Parks WA	0.00154	0.00074	0.00073	-0.00081	-0.00001
Weminuche WA	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
West Elk WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Zion NP <sup>1</sup>	0.00155	0.00051	0.00051	-0.00104	0.00000
<b>All Class I area Average</b>	<b>0.06957</b>	<b>0.03471</b>	<b>0.03413</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00058</b>

<sup>1</sup> Results based on incomplete dataset. Zion NP monitor did not meet the 75% data completion SMAT requirement for year 2011.

The language in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3)(i) and (ii) indicate allowance of a straight numerical test. The regulation does not specify that a minimum difference in deciview between the scenarios must be achieved to determine that a BART alternative achieves greater reasonable progress. Because the modeling results show that visibility under the BART alternative does not decline at any of the 15 affected Class I areas compared to the baseline (prong 1) and will result in improved visibility, on average, across all 15 Class I areas compared to the EPA FIP (prong 2), Utah finds that the BART alternative will achieve greater reasonable progress than the EPA FIP

**Commented [A33]:** Consider moving Table 5 to immediately after Table 4. In its current location, it incorrectly appears that Table 4 is relevant to Prong 1, while Table 5 is relative to Prong 2.

under the two-prong modeling test in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3).



## Monitoring, Recordkeeping, and Reporting

*40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iii) A requirement that all necessary emission reductions take place during the period of the first long-term strategy for regional haze. To meet this requirement, the State must provide a detailed description of the emissions trading program or other alternative measure, including schedules for implementation, the emission reductions required by the program, all necessary administrative and technical procedures for implementing the program, rules for accounting and monitoring emissions, and procedures for enforcement.*

The schedule for installation of the NO<sub>x</sub> controls required by the alternative measure is shown in Table 4. The alternative measure has been fully implemented prior to 2018, the end of the first long term strategy for regional haze.

**Table 6 Implementation Schedule**

Unit	Year Installed or Required
PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 1	2014
PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 2	2011
PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 3	2008
PacifiCorp Huntington Unit 1	2010
PacifiCorp Huntington Unit 2	2006
PacifiCorp Carbon Unit 1	2015
PacifiCorp Carbon Unit 2	2015

The enforceable emission limits, administrative and technical procedures for implementing the program, rules for accounting and monitoring emissions, and procedures for enforcement are addressed in [SIP Section IX, Parts H.21 and 22](#).

**Commented [A34]:** Resubmit this with revised SIP package because it was not approved by EPA in 2015. See comments in Section XX. This would apply to any other pieces that are necessary to make this a complete, stand-alone SIP package.

*40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iv) A demonstration that the emission reductions resulting from the emissions trading program or other alternative measure will be surplus to those reductions resulting from measures adopted to meet requirements of the CAA as of the baseline date of the SIP.*

### **Baseline Date of the SIP**

When the regional haze rule was promulgated in 1999, EPA explained that the “baseline date of the SIP” in this context means “the date of the emissions inventories on which the SIP relies.”<sup>15</sup> The baseline inventory for the regional SO<sub>2</sub> milestones and backstop trading program in Utah’s 2003 SIP was 1990 while the inventory for the remaining elements in the 2003 SIP, including enhanced smoke management, mobile sources, and pollution prevention, was 1996. When the RH SIP was updated in 2008, a new baseline inventory of 2002 was established for regional modeling, evaluating the impact on Class I areas outside of the Colorado Plateau, and BART as outlined in EPA Guidance<sup>16</sup> and the July 6, 2005 BART Rule.<sup>17</sup> For purposes of evaluating an alternative to BART, the later baseline date of 2002 is therefore most appropriate. 2002 is the baseline inventory that was used by other states throughout the country when evaluating BART under the provisions of 40 CFR 51.308. Any measure adopted after 2002 is considered “surplus” under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iv)<sup>18</sup>. To make a valid comparison that the “alternative measure will be surplus to those reductions resulting from measures adopted to meet requirements of the Regional Haze Rule as of the baseline date of the SIP” as required by 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iv), the Most Stringent NO<sub>x</sub> scenario includes measures required before the baseline date of the SIP but does not include later measures that are credited as part of the alternative scenario.

### **SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> Reductions from the Closure of the PacifiCorp Carbon Plant**

Utah met the BART requirement for SO<sub>2</sub> as provided under 40 CFR 51.309(d)(4) through the establishment of SO<sub>2</sub> emission milestones with a backstop regulatory trading program to ensure that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the 3-state region of Utah, Wyoming, and New Mexico decreased substantially between 2003 and 2018. The final SO<sub>2</sub> milestone in 2018 was determined to provide greater reasonable progress than BART and the overall RH SIP was deemed to meet the reasonable progress requirements for Class I areas on the Colorado Plateau and for other Class I areas<sup>19</sup>. The modeling supporting the RH SIP included regional SO<sub>2</sub> emissions based on the 2018 SO<sub>2</sub> milestone and also included NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from the Carbon Plant. Actual emissions in the 3-state region are calculated each year and compared to the milestones. As can be seen in

<sup>15</sup> 64 Fed. Reg. 35,742 (July 1, 1999).

<sup>16</sup> Memorandum from Lydia Wegman and Peter Tsigotis, 2002 Base Year Emission Inventory SIP Planning: 8-hr Ozone, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and Regional Haze Programs, November 8, 2002.

<sup>17</sup> 70 Fed. Reg. 39,143 (July 6, 2005).

<sup>18</sup> Utah’s actions here are consistent with EPA’s actions in other states. *See e.g.*, 79 Fed. Reg. at 33,441-42; 79 Fed. Reg. at 56,328.

<sup>19</sup> 77 Fed. Reg. 74,355 (Dec. 14, 2012).

Table 5, the 2018 milestone was met seven years early in 2011, and SO<sub>2</sub> emissions have continued to decline. The most recent milestone report for 2016 demonstrates that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions are currently 36% lower than the 2018 milestone. The Carbon Plant was fully operational in the years 2011-2013 when the 2018 milestone was initially achieved for those years. Therefore, the SO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions from the closure of the Carbon Plant are surplus to what is needed to meet the 2018 milestone established in Utah's RH SIP.

Commented [A35]: Table #?

Commented [A36]: Clarify that final compliance with the 2018 milestone is determined after 2018.

Table 7 SO<sub>2</sub> Milestone Trends

Year	Milestone	Three Year Average SO <sub>2</sub> Emissions (tons/yr)	Carbon Plant SO <sub>2</sub> Emissions (tons/yr)
2003	303,264	214,780	5,488
2004	303,264	223,584	5,642
2005	303,264	220,987	5,410
2006	303,264	218,499	6,779
2007	303,264	203,569	6,511
2008	269,083	186,837	5,057
2009	234,903	165,633	5,494
2010	200,722	146,808	7,462
2011	200,722	131,074	7,740
2012	200,722	115,316	8,307
2013	185,795	105,006	7,702
2014	170,868	96,302	9,241
2015	155,940	91,310	2,816
2016	155,940	90,591	0
2017	155,940		
2018	141,849		

The Carbon Plant was built in the 1950s and is therefore grandfathered under Utah's permitting rules. The plant was equipped with an electrostatic precipitator for PM control and had no SO<sub>2</sub> or NO<sub>x</sub> controls. PacifiCorp shut down the Carbon Power Plant on April 14, 2015 due to the high cost of controlling mercury to meet the requirements of EPA's new Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS) rule. The MATS rule was finalized in 2011, well after the 2002 base year for Utah's RH SIP, and therefore any reductions required to meet the MATS rule are clearly surplus and may be considered as part of an alternative strategy under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(vi). An enforceable requirement is included in Section IX.H.22 of the SIP that made the permanent closure of the Carbon Plant enforceable by August 15, 2015.

In October 2015, the Utah Air Quality Board approved an Enforceable Commitment whereby Utah committed to amend SIP sections and rules so that emissions reductions from the closure of the Carbon plant would not be counted under both 308 and 309. As part of this SIP amendment, the DAQ is amending State Rule R307-150 so that the Carbon Plant will continue to report

8,005 tons of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions each year as part of the SO<sub>2</sub> Milestone report. This allows credit for those emissions reductions to be used as part of the State's BART alternative.

### PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 3

PacifiCorp upgraded the low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners on Hunter Unit 3 in 2008. This upgrade was not required under the requirements of the Clean Air Act as of the 2002 baseline date of the SIP and is therefore clearly considered surplus and may be credited in the alternative program under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(vi). Prior to the 2008 upgrade, the emission rate for Hunter Unit 2 was 0.46 lb/MMBtu heat input for a 30-day rolling average as required by Phase II of the Acid Rain Program.

**Commented [A37]:** Specify the new emission limit so that it can be compared to the pre-2008 emission limit of 0.46 lb/MMBtu (30-day rolling average).

### Future Planning

The regional haze program is designed to achieve a long-term goal and updated SIPs are required every 10 years to ensure continued progress. The DAQ is beginning work on a RH SIP that will address the next planning period of 2021 – 2028. This next RH SIP is due in 2021, and the DAQ anticipates that this SIP will be completed in parallel with planning efforts to meet the 2015 ozone NAAQS. Both regional haze and ozone are affected by regional NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, and the DAQ anticipates that common emission strategies will lead to improvements in both areas. Significant technical work must be completed before these common benefits can be quantified in the next RH SIP.

**Commented [A38]:** The next 2 SIP submissions are not on a 10-year schedule, instead SIP revisions are due by July 31, 2021, July 31, 2028, and every 10 years thereafter.

# Appendix A

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*CAMx Visibility Assessment for Utah Power Plants: Hunter, Huntington and Carbon*



Ramboll  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
September 2018

# CAMx Visibility Assessment for Utah Power Plants: Hunter, Huntington and Carbon

## Final Report

## List of Acronyms

AGL	above ground level
BART	Best Available Retrofit Technology
BC	boundary conditions
CAIR	Clean Air Interstate Rule
CAMD	Clean Air Market Division
CAMx	Comprehensive Air Quality Model with Extensions
CB0r2	Carbon Bond version 6
CBNG	Coalbed Natural Gas
CEM	continuous emissions monitoring
CEMPD	Center for Environmental Modeling for Policy Development
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CMAQ	Community Multiscale Air Quality
CO	carbon monoxide
CSAPR	Cross-State Air Pollution Rule
dv	Deciview
DVC	Current Design Value
DVF	Future-Year Design Value
EGU	Electric Generating Unit
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
FIP	Federal Implementation Plan
FLAG	Federal Land Manager's Air Quality Guidance
ft	feet
ft/s	feet per second
HONO	nitrous acid
IC	initial conditions
IE	Institute for the Environment
IMPROVE	Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments
ISORROPIA	inorganic aerosol thermodynamics/partitioning model
K	Kelvin
km	kilometer
$K_v$	coefficient of vertical eddy diffusion
LCC	Lambert Conformal Conic
LNB	Low-NO <sub>x</sub> Burners controls
m	meters
m/s	meters per second
m <sup>2</sup> /s	square meters per second
mb	millibar
MCIP	Meteorology-chemistry interface processor
MEGAN	Model of Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from Nature

MOVES	Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator
MOZART	Model for Ozone and Related chemical Tracers
MPE	model performance evaluation
MSL	mean sea level
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NCAR	National Center for Atmospheric Research
NCL	NCAR Command Language
NEI	National Emissions Inventory
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NH <sub>3</sub>	ammonia
NH <sub>4</sub>	ammonium
NO <sub>3</sub>	Nitrate
NO	nitric oxide
NO <sub>2</sub>	nitrogen dioxide
NONROAD	Non-road mobile emissions model
NO <sub>x</sub>	oxides of nitrogen
NP	National Park
NPRI	National Pollutant Release Inventory
O <sub>3</sub>	ozone
OC	Organic Carbon
OFA	Over-fire Air controls
PAVE	Package for Analysis and Visualization of Environmental data
PBL	planetary boundary layer
PFT	plant functional types
PGM	photochemical grid model
PiG	Plume-in-Grid
PM	particulate matter
PM <sub>10</sub>	PM with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 10 microns
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	PM with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 2.5 microns
PPM	piecewise parabolic method
PSAT	Particulate Source Apportionment Technology
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration
QA	quality assurance
RADM	Regional Acid Deposition Model
RPO	Regional Planning Organization
RRF	Relative Response Factors
SCC	Source Classification Code
SCR	Selective Catalytic Reduction controls
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SMAT-CE	Software for Model Attainment Test – Community Edition
SMOKE	Sparse Matrix Operator Kernel Emissions
SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide
SO <sub>4</sub>	sulfate

tpy	tons per year
TUV	total ultraviolet
U.S.	United States
UNC	University of North Carolina
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
UV	ultraviolet
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VOC	volatile organic compound
WA	Wilderness Area
WAQS	Western Air Quality Modeling Study
WBD	wind-blown dust
WRAP	Western Regional Air Partnership
WRF	Weather Research and Forecast

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## Executive Summary

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) issued a Regional Haze Rule to protect visibility in over 150 national parks and wilderness areas in 1999. The Regional Haze Rule requires states to establish Best Available Retrofit Technology requirements (BART) and Reasonable Progress Goals for improving visibility, with the overall goal of attaining natural background visibility conditions by 2064. On June 4, 2015, the State of Utah submitted to the USEPA a revised Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP). The SIP addressed requirements of the Clean Air Act specifically related to the Regional Haze Rule. On July 5, 2015, USEPA approved some parts and disapproved other parts of Utah's regional haze SIP. Specifically, USEPA disapproved the State's nitrogen oxides (NOx) BART determinations for four units at two PacifiCorp power plants: Hunter units 1 and 2 and Huntington units 1 and 2. To address the portions of Utah's SIP that USEPA disapproved, USEPA finalized a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) that determined NOx BART controls for Hunter and Huntington power plants require the application of selective catalytic reduction (SCR) controls with low NOx burners and separated overfire air (SCR + LNB/SOFA). The State of Utah and PacifiCorp disagreed with the FIP determination and challenged it in court. The USEPA relied, in large part, on the CALPUFF computer model to reject Utah's SIP BART alternative; however, the State of Utah and PacifiCorp believe the CALPUFF model results used by EPA had several limitations.

To address these concerns, PacifiCorp retained AECOM to perform additional modeling of Utah's SIP and EPA's FIP using the Comprehensive Air Quality Model with extensions (CAMx). CAMx is a photochemical grid model (PGM) with the capabilities to estimate the concentrations of pollutants that contribute to regional haze. It has a technical formulation that is considered more realistic than that of CALPUFF, and CAMx predicts more accurate changes in light extinction as a result to changes in emissions from PacifiCorp power plants. Identified below are a description of the CAMx modeling and the results from the model runs involving the EPA's FIP and Utah's SIP.

### Modeling Approach

A modeling protocol (AECOM, 2018) for the CAMx analysis was negotiated with and agreed to by EPA in February 2018. The CAMx modeling analysis uses the Western Air Quality Modeling Study (WAQS) modeling platform, which is a publicly available platform intended to facilitate air resource analyses in the western United States.

The CAMx system was configured using the WAQS configuration settings to simulate future-year 2025 visibility conditions for different modeling scenarios. The only differences among scenarios are the emission rates for PacifiCorp's power plants in Utah. The three modeling scenarios were:

- Baseline Scenario. This scenario simulates representative emissions from Carbon, Hunter and Huntington power plants during the Regional Haze Rule baseline period of 2001 to 2003.
- USEPA FIP Scenario. This scenario simulates the emission control strategy for Hunter and Huntington units stipulated by the USEPA in the FIP. The Carbon power plant is modeled with the same level of emissions as the Baseline scenario.
- Utah SIP Scenario. This scenario includes the BART Alternative strategy identified in Utah's SIP. It simulates representative emissions from Hunter and Huntington units during the period 2014 to 2016, which included emissions controls required by the SIP. For this scenario, the Carbon power plant emissions also were zero since the power plant was decommissioned in April 2015, a requirement contained in the SIP.

**Table ES-1** summarizes the total emissions modeled for Hunter, Huntington and Carbon combined in each scenario. The values represent the final emissions that were modeled.

**Table ES-2: Total Modeled Emissions for PacifiCorp Power Plants by Scenario**

Scenario	NO <sub>x</sub> (tpy*)	SO <sub>2</sub> (tpy)	VOC (tpy)	CO (tpy)	PM <sub>10</sub> (tpy)	PM <sub>2.5</sub> (tpy)	NH <sub>3</sub> (tpy)
Baseline	34,053	26,772	225	1,877	3,834	2,663	41
USEPA FIP	12,959	12,060	225	1,877	3,834	2,663	41
Utah SIP	17,197	6,246	207	1,721	3,531	2,443	37

\*tpy = short tons per year

Other than the emissions for the PacifiCorp power plants, all other model inputs, including other regional emissions sources, are identical for each of the emission scenarios modeled with CAMx. Maintaining consistent model inputs enables comparison of the effects of different emissions scenarios. The Particulate Source Apportionment Technology (PSAT) tool was applied in the CAMx simulations to track and account for the particulate mass concentrations that originate from or are formed by PacifiCorp power plant emissions.

Once all the scenarios above were simulated with the PGM, model results were processed to isolate the changes to visibility conditions. To assess compliance with Regional Haze Rule requirements, visibility impacts were assessed for the 20 percent best visibility days and the 20 percent worst visibility days at each potentially affected, federally-regulated Class I area in the modeling domain (see below). The visibility estimates are provided as deciview (dv) contributions from PacifiCorp's power plants. A deciview is a measure of visibility derived from light extinction that is designed so that incremental changes in the measurement of haze correspond to uniform incremental changes in visual perception, across the entire range of conditions from pristine to highly impaired. Model-predicted visibility impacts at these fifteen Class I areas in the 4-km modeling domain were estimated for each of the three modeling scenarios.

- Grand Canyon National Park (NP)
- Arches NP
- Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP
- Bryce Canyon NP
- Canyonlands NP
- Capitol Reef NP
- Mesa Verde NP
- Zion NP
- Flat Tops Wilderness Area (WA)
- Mount Zirkel WA
- Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA
- West Elk WA
- La Garita WA
- Weminuche WA
- San Pedro Parks WA

To convert model concentrations to visibility estimates and account for quantifiable model bias, the USEPA's Software for Model Attainment Test – Community Edition (SMAT-CE) was used. All models are affected by biases; i.e., model results are a simplification of natural phenomena and, as such, model results over- or under-estimate true conditions. The use of SMAT-CE helps mitigate model bias by pairing model estimates with actual measured conditions. By using the Particulate Source Apportionment Technology tool in conjunction with SMAT-CE, this modeling effort estimates PacifiCorp's power plants' visibility impacts for each model scenario in a realistic manner. The Utah SIP scenario SMAT-CE visibility estimates are compared to the Baseline and USEPA FIP scenarios to determine which has the least impact on visibility.

#### Assessment Method

Potential visibility improvements from two emissions strategies (e.g., the USEPA FIP and the Utah SIP BART Alternative) can be compared using a two-pronged test. Under the first prong, visibility must not decline at any Class I area for the Utah SIP scenario when compared to baseline visibility conditions (i.e., the Baseline scenario). This prong is satisfied if the difference between the Utah SIP scenario and the Baseline scenario is negative or zero at each Class I area. Under the second prong, the average visibility over all Class I areas is compared between the Utah SIP scenario and the USEPA FIP scenario. For the second prong, if the average visibility impact is negative or zero this indicates that the Utah SIP scenario is predicted to have lower visibility impacts on average than the USEPA FIP scenario. For the second prong, it is acceptable if some Class I areas show greater improvement under the USEPA FIP scenario provided that the overall impacts are equivalent or greater for the Utah SIP (i.e., the average over all areas analyzed). The objective of the two-pronged test is to evaluate the visibility impacts under the Utah SIP scenario and determine if the predicted visibility will be better than the baseline and better than the USEPA FIP. This analysis is conducted for two sets of data: the 20 percent best visibility days and the 20 percent worst visibility days. This assessment method is similar to the one used in the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) (USEPA 2011) and the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) (USEPA 2005a).

The modeling results are presented in a tabular format below to easily evaluate visibility impacts relative to the two-pronged test for the 20 percent best and worst days. The table presents the model-predicted visibility impacts at each analyzed Class I area for the following scenarios: Baseline (Column A), USEPA FIP (Column B) and Utah SIP (Column C). The last two columns of tables show the predicted visibility benefits from Utah SIP scenario relative to both the Baseline (Column D) and the USEPA FIP (Column E). Negative values for individual Class I areas in Column D indicate that the Utah SIP scenario has smaller contributions to visibility relative to the Baseline and therefore it improves visibility over the Baseline at every Class I area. When Column D results are negative, the Utah SIP scenario meets the requirements of the first prong of the test. The last row of the table shows the average visibility results. When the bottom row of Column E has negative values, the Utah SIP scenario improves the average visibility relative to the USEPA FIP and meets the requirements of the second prong of the test.

#### Results

Visibility impacts derived from modeling results are summarized in **Tables ES-2** and **ES-3**. The tables show the model-estimated contribution from PacifiCorp's power plants in Utah to visibility on the 20 percent best days and worst days, respectively. **Table ES-2** shows that the emissions for the Utah SIP scenario will not result in degradation of visibility on the 20 percent best days compared to the Baseline conditions at any of the analyzed Class I areas. In each individual area, visibility is predicted to improve compared to the Baseline visibility, since all the values shown in Column D are negative. The Utah SIP meets the requirements of the first prong of the test for the 20 percent best days. As shown in Column E, the Utah SIP scenario shows an average improvement in visibility of 0.00494 dv relative to the USEPA FIP for the best 20 percent days. The Utah SIP meets the requirements of the second prong of the test for the 20 percent best days by showing an overall improvement in visibility over the USEPA FIP as the average visibility change across all Class I areas is negative.

**Table ES-3** shows that the emissions for the Utah SIP scenario would not result in degradation of visibility on the 20 percent worst days compared to the Baseline conditions at any of the analyzed Class I areas. In each individual area, visibility is predicted to improve compared to the Baseline visibility, since all values in Column D are negative. The Utah SIP meets the requirements of the first prong of the test for the 20 percent worst days. Also, as shown in Column E, the Utah SIP scenario shows an average improvement in visibility of 0.00058 dv relative to the USEPA FIP for the 20 percent worst days. The Utah SIP meets the requirements of the second prong of the test for the 20 percent worst days.

In summary, the Utah SIP meets the requirements of both prongs of the two-prong test for both the 20 percent best and 20 percent worst visibility days. CAMx modeling results predict that Utah SIP proposal improves visibility relative to the Baseline scenario at each of the analyzed Class I areas during both the 20 percent best and 20 percent worst visibility days. Furthermore, modeling results show that, on average, visibility improvement at the analyzed Class I areas is greater for the Utah SIP scenario than for the USEPA FIP scenario during both the 20 percent best and 20 percent worst visibility days.

**Table ES-3: Visibility Impacts for the 2025 Baseline, USEPA FIP and Utah SIP Scenarios on the 20 Percent Best Days**

Class I area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] USEPA FIP (dv)	[C] Utah SIP (dv)	[D] Utah SIP - Baseline	[E] Utah SIP - USEPA FIP
Arches NP	0.10300	0.05607	0.03851	-0.06449	-0.01756
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
Bryce Canyon NP	0.00528	0.00254	0.00228	-0.00300	-0.00026
Canyonlands NP	0.10300	0.05607	0.03851	-0.06449	-0.01756
Capitol Reef NP	0.14218	0.07222	0.07140	-0.07078	-0.00082
Flat Tops WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Grand Canyon NP	0.07136	0.03567	0.03611	-0.03525	0.00044
La Garita WA	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Mesa Verde NP	0.06356	0.03381	0.02749	-0.03607	-0.00632
Mount Zirkel WA	0.04209	0.02060	0.01471	-0.02738	-0.00589
San Pedro Parks WA	0.03627	0.01742	0.01593	-0.02034	-0.00149
Weminuche WA	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
West Elk WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Zion NP <sup>1</sup>	0.00612	0.00291	0.00300	-0.00312	0.00009
<b>All Class I Area Average</b>	<b>0.04940</b>	<b>0.02602</b>	<b>0.02108</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00494</b>

**Table ES-4: Visibility Impacts for the 2025 Baseline, USEPA FIP and Utah SIP Scenarios on the 20 Percent Worst Days**

<b>Class I area</b>	<b>[A] Baseline (dv)</b>	<b>[B] USEPA FIP (dv)</b>	<b>[C] Utah SIP (dv)</b>	<b>[D] Utah SIP - Baseline</b>	<b>[E] Utah SIP - USEPA FIP</b>
Arches NP	0.25740	0.13780	0.12584	-0.13156	-0.01196
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
Bryce Canyon NP	0.04945	0.02184	0.02470	-0.02475	0.00286
Canyonlands NP	0.25740	0.13780	0.12584	-0.13156	-0.01196
Capitol Reef NP	0.26010	0.11672	0.14568	-0.11442	0.02896
Flat Tops WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Grand Canyon NP	0.00186	0.00089	0.00056	-0.00130	-0.00033
La Garita WA	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Mesa Verde NP	0.06203	0.02524	0.02959	-0.03244	0.00435
Mount Zirkel WA	0.03312	0.01705	0.01198	-0.02114	-0.00507
San Pedro Parks WA	0.00154	0.00074	0.00073	-0.00081	-0.00001
Weminuche WA	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
West Elk WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Zion NP <sup>1</sup>	0.00155	0.00051	0.00051	-0.00104	0.00000
<b>All Class I Area Average</b>	<b>0.06957</b>	<b>0.03471</b>	<b>0.03413</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00058</b>

## 1.0 Introduction

The USEPA issued a Regional Haze Rule to protect visibility in over 150 national parks and wilderness areas in 1999. The Regional Haze Rule requires states to establish Best Available Retrofit Technology requirements (BART) and Reasonable Progress Goals for improving visibility, with the overall goal of attaining natural background visibility conditions by 2064. On June 4, 2015, the State of Utah submitted to the USEPA a revised Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP). The SIP addressed requirements of the Clean Air Act specifically related to the Regional Haze Rule. On July 5, 2015, USEPA approved some parts and disapproved other parts of Utah's regional haze SIP. Specifically, USEPA disapproved the State's nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) BART determinations for four units at two PacifiCorp power plants: Hunter units 1 and 2 and Huntington units 1 and 2. To address the portions of Utah's SIP that USEPA disapproved, USEPA finalized a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) that determined NO<sub>x</sub> BART controls for Hunter and Huntington power plants require the application of selective catalytic reduction (SCR) controls with low NO<sub>x</sub> burners and separated overfire air (SCR + LNB/SOFA). The State of Utah and PacifiCorp disagreed with the FIP determination and challenged it in court. The USEPA relied, in large part, on the CALPUFF model to reject Utah's SIP BART Alternative; however, the State of Utah and PacifiCorp assert that USEPA's CALPUFF model results are ultimately of limited value and should be viewed in light of all of the evidence and information.

To address these concerns, a new modeling analysis with an advanced photochemical grid model (PGM) was conducted to assess the visibility benefits associated with the Utah SIP's BART Alternative NO<sub>x</sub> emissions controls at Hunter and Huntington power plants combined with the retirement of the Carbon Power Plant. This report, relying on the advanced modeling analysis and results, provides an assessment of the BART Alternative compared to the visibility benefits predicted by USEPA's FIP NO<sub>x</sub> BART limits. This assessment was conducted at fifteen Class I areas in Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado.

The PGM used for this report was the Comprehensive Air Quality Model with extensions (CAMx). CAMx (Ramboll 2014) can estimate the formation, transport, and removal of pollutants that contribute to regional haze. CAMx has a technical formulation that is considered state-of-science, so it is more realistic and is expected to predict more accurate changes in light extinction due to changes in emissions from PacifiCorp power plants than the CALPUFF model used in the USEPA FIP. This project utilized an available CAMx modeling platform already reviewed by the USEPA that covers the area where the power plants and Class I areas are located.

### 1.1 Model Description Overview

The use of the CAMx model for analyzing potential cumulative air quality impacts has been well established: the model has been used for many previous visibility modeling studies in the western U.S., including SIPs and Environmental Impact Statements (EISs). CAMx is a photochemical modeling system developed and updated regularly by Ramboll. The Western Air Quality Study (WAQS) modeling platform (IWDW 2016a and 2016b) was used as the starting point to assess visibility impacts from different emissions scenarios from PacifiCorp's Utah power plants. The WAQS is a modeling platform intended to facilitate air resource analyses for federal and state stakeholders as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and for other studies. The WAQS provides a framework for performing air quality analyses in the three states of Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah.

The Intermountain West Data Warehouse (IWDW) developed an updated air quality model platform for WAQS year 2011 (referred to as "2011b") (IWDW 2016a and 2016b). The 2011b model platform includes updates to the emissions, boundary conditions and model configuration relative to its predecessor, the 2011a modeling platform. The 2011b model platform has been reviewed and approved

by the IWDW-WAQS Cooperating Agencies, including USEPA (Region 8), and Utah Department of Environmental Quality among other state and federal agencies such as the BLM (in Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico offices), the FS (in Rocky Mountain, Intermountain, and Southwestern Regions), the NPS (Intermountain Region), and the FWS (Region 6), Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Wyoming Department of Environmental and New Mexico Environment Department. The 2011b modeling platform and its individual components as described in this report were leveraged to perform this alternative visibility assessment.

The Weather Research and Forecast (WRF) Model and the Sparse Matrix Operator Kernel Emissions (SMOKE) model provide meteorological and emissions inputs respectively to the CAMx photochemical grid model. Collectively, these three models will be referred to hereafter as the "CAMx modeling system." The CAMx modeling system used for this project was selected for consistency with the WAQS and includes:

- WRF (version 3.5.1): State-of-science mesoscale numerical weather prediction system capable of supporting urban- and regional-scale photochemical, fine particulate and regional haze regulatory modeling studies.
- SMOKE (version 3.5.1): Emissions modeling system that generates hourly, gridded, and speciated emissions inputs of on-road, non-road, area, point, fire, and biogenic emissions sources for photochemical grid models.
- CAMx (versions 6.10 and 6.40): State-of-science „One-Atmosphere” photochemical grid model capable of addressing ozone and other criteria pollutants, visibility, and atmospheric deposition at the regional and urban scale.

The CAMx system was configured to simulate the following modeling scenarios which are described in more detail in Chapter 2:

- Typical Year Modeling Scenario. The Typical scenario is used only to aid in the calculation of relative response factors that will be used for the visibility assessment impacts, as described in more detail in Chapter 4.0. This modeling scenario includes emissions for all the units of Carbon, Hunter and Huntington power plants at levels representative of the period 2001 to 2003, while all other sources remain at the levels of the 2011 WAQS base year simulation. This period was chosen to keep consistency with the modeling performed by the USEPA in support of the FIP (2015a, 2016a).
- Baseline Modeling Scenario. This scenario simulates representative emissions from Carbon, Hunter and Huntington power plants during the period 2001 to 2003. Emissions from Carbon, Hunter and Huntington are identical to the Typical Year Modeling Scenario. All other emissions sources remain at the levels of the 2025 WAQS future-year simulation.
- USEPA FIP Modeling Scenario. This scenario simulates the emission control strategy for Hunter and Huntington units stipulated by the USEPA in the FIP. The scenario also includes the Carbon power plant using the same level of emissions as the Baseline scenario. All other emissions sources remain at the levels of the 2025 WAQS future-year simulation.
- Utah SIP Modeling Scenario. This scenario simulates the emission control strategy for Carbon, Hunter and Huntington units required by Utah’s SIP. This scenario simulates representative emissions from Hunter and Huntington units during the period 2014 to 2016, which include the emissions controls required by the SIP. For this scenario, the Carbon power plant emissions were zero since the power plant was decommissioned in April 2015, as required by the SIP. All other emissions sources remain at the levels of the 2025 WAQS future-year simulation.

Notice that the only changes between the Baseline, USEPA FIP, and Utah SIP scenarios are due to different emission rates for PacifiCorp power plants. All other regional sources remain unchanged among all emission scenarios. Note that the temporal profile of all the PacifiCorp power plants emissions is normalized for all model scenarios to prevent periods of down time experienced by any of the units historically from artificially affecting the analysis of future impacts.

## **1.2 Visibility Impact Assessment**

The modeling methodology followed established regional PGM modeling procedures and guidelines, specifically:

- “Guidance on the Use of Models and Other Analyses for Demonstrating Attainment of Air Quality Goals for Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and Regional Haze” (USEPA 2014b).
- “Regional Haze Regulations and Guidelines for Best Available Retrofit Determinations” (USEPA 2005b).
- “Demonstration that the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) Satisfies the „Better-than-BART” Test as proposed in the Guidelines for Making BART Determinations” (USEPA 2005a).
- “Cross-State Air Pollution (CSAPR) Air Quality Modeling” (USEPA 2011).

Visibility impacts were evaluated using the following three-step process:

1. Develop project emissions for all scenarios;
2. Model the impacts resulting from the changes in these emissions; and
3. Compare the modeled impacts among different scenarios.

The first step in the process is the emissions development. Chapter 2.0 identifies PacifiCorp power plants emissions, provides information on the regional emissions inventory and shows the agreed-upon modeling domains for this project. Chapter 3.0 details the modeling procedures. Chapter 4.0 outlines the procedures for reporting model results and comparing the resulting impacts among the different scenarios. Chapter 5.0 provides a summary of the results.

## 2.0 Emissions Inventories and Modeling Domains

Regional photochemical grid models need information from all emissions sources in the modeling domain, in addition to those associated with the PacifiCorp power plants alone. This typically requires a comprehensive emissions inventory, which is processed in combination with the project-specific emissions.

This chapter provides information about both the emissions for each control scenario specific to PacifiCorp's power plants and all other regional emissions included in the model simulations. It describes the sources of the emissions data, the processing steps, the purpose of each emissions scenario, and the final modeled emissions.

### 2.1 PacifiCorp Power Plants Emissions

This section provides a description of the emission rates and parameters associated with the following PacifiCorp power plants located in Utah: Carbon, Hunter and Huntington. The modeling for this study considers three different scenarios for the future year (2025) and an additional scenario for the typical year (2011). Each of the modeling scenarios' emissions are described in more detail in the following sections. However, emissions associated with PacifiCorp power plants were modeled using the same stack parameter information for all modeling scenarios. The stack parameters associated to each of PacifiCorp power plants units is summarized in **Table 2-1**. This information was provided by PacifiCorp and is identical to the information available in for the 2011 EPA National Emissions Inventory (NEI) version 6 (USEPA 2016b), which was used in the WAQS.

**Table 2-1: Stack Parameters by Unit**

Plant	Unit	Stack Height		Stack Diameter		Stack Exit Velocity		Stack Exit Temperature
		M	Ft	m	ft	m/s	ft/s	K
Carbon	1	61.0	200.0	3.1	10.3	10.8	35.3	382.0
	2	52.4	172.0	3.8	12.5	12.1	39.8	412.6
Hunter	1	183.0	600.4	7.3	24.0	17.3	56.8	317.0
	2	183.0	600.4	7.3	24.0	17.3	56.8	317.0
	3	182.9	600.0	7.3	24.0	13.4	44.0	322.0
Huntington	1	183.0	600.4	7.3	24.0	19.6	64.3	317.0
	2	183.0	600.4	7.3	24.0	19.6	64.3	317.0

In addition to the stack parameters, all the scenarios used identical values for the emissions speciation profile and the temporal profile for the PacifiCorp power plants. The speciation profile is based on the Carbon Bond version 6 (CB6r2) chemical mechanism with profiles for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), nitrogen monoxide (NO), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), and particulate matter (PM) with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 2.5 microns (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) that uses source-specific speciation developed with the SPECIATE 4.3 database. A detailed description of the temporal profile is presented in the Typical Year scenario section (2.1.1).

### 2.1.1 Typical Year (2011) Modeling Scenario

The main goal of the Typical Year modeling is to aid in the calculation of relative response factors used in the visibility assessment as described in Chapter 4.0. In general, the regional emissions and configuration for the Typical Year modeling scenario are based on the WAQS 2011 platform with the exception that the PacifiCorp power plants emissions are representative of the period 2001 to 2003 instead of the emissions that correspond to the year 2011. The annual emissions for PacifiCorp's power plants in tons per year (tpy) for the Typical Year Modeling Scenario are shown in **Table 2-2**.

The NO<sub>x</sub> and sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) total annual emissions presented in **Table 2-2** are calculated from the three-year average (2001 to 2003) of emission rates found in the USEPA Clean Air Market Division (CAMD) emissions system for the PacifiCorp power plants (USEPA 2017a). In addition to NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from CAMD, **Table 2-2** includes emissions for VOCs, carbon monoxide (CO), PM with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 10 microns (PM<sub>10</sub>), and ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>). The annual emissions for pollutants not included in CAMD datasets are calculated from the 3-year average of years 2000 to 2002 from the USEPA's National Emissions Inventory (NEI) (USEPA 2017b). The year 2003 was not included on this estimate because there is no NEI data for this year. However, the NEI did provide values for 2000 emissions which were similar in magnitude to those for years 2001 and 2002 and therefore are included in the final 3-year average estimate.

**Table 2-2: PacifiCorp Power Plants' Emissions for the Typical Year Modeling Scenario by Unit**

Plant	Unit	NO <sub>x</sub> tpy	SO <sub>2</sub> tpy	VOC tpy	CO Tpy	PM <sub>10</sub> tpy	PM <sub>2.5</sub> tpy	NH <sub>3</sub> Tpy
Carbon	1	1,312.4	2,285.7	7.4	61.6	119.9	86.9	1.3
	2	1,977.3	3,527.5	11.3	93.9	182.9	132.5	1.9
Hunter	1	6,379.7	2,535.1	45.1	375.4	733.0	537.0	8.4
	2	6,092.1	2,531.4	44.1	367.5	717.4	525.5	8.2
	3	6,530.2	1,204.0	32.6	271.8	530.6	388.7	6.1
Huntington	1	5,944.3	2,380.4	28.3	235.8	517.2	331.1	4.9
	2	5,816.5	12,308.0	56.5	470.7	1,032.6	661.0	9.7

The total annual emissions must be temporally allocated throughout the year so that CAMx modeling can be performed. This allocation is referred as the emissions temporal profile. The temporal profile used for this and all other modeling scenarios was estimated to represent a "typical" level of operations for all the units from the PacifiCorp power plants during the 2001 to 2003 period (USEPA 2017a). The temporal profile was derived by taking the average of the CAMD daily SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from 2001 to 2012 for each power plant. This period covers the entire time span of the emissions used for the various modeling scenarios considered. Using the average from eleven years provides a temporal profile that retains a realistic day-to-day variability without fluctuations attributable to temporary shutdowns or restarts at each unit. The daily percentage contribution was then calculated by determining the percentage the 3-year daily contributes to the annual total. The resulting temporal profile for each power plant is shown in **Figure 2-1** as the daily percentage contribution for SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and all the other pollutants. The SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> profiles are then applied to the SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>, emissions, respectively for each power plant's units. Notice that the temporal profile for all the other pollutants was determined through the average of the SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> profiles and is applied to the power plant's emissions for VOC, CO, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub>. In general, the profiles show a constant level of

operations without a strong seasonality. For comparison a constant profile that allocates emissions equally throughout the year would represent a flat line at 0.27% every day.

A description of the regional emissions included in the modeling is presented in Section 2.2. It is important to note that for this scenario the remaining Electric Generating Units (EGUs) emissions and temporal profiles in the computational domain remain unchanged from the data provided by the 2011 WQAS modeling platform. In other words, the only changes to the emission inventory in this scenario are those described above for PacifiCorp power plants.

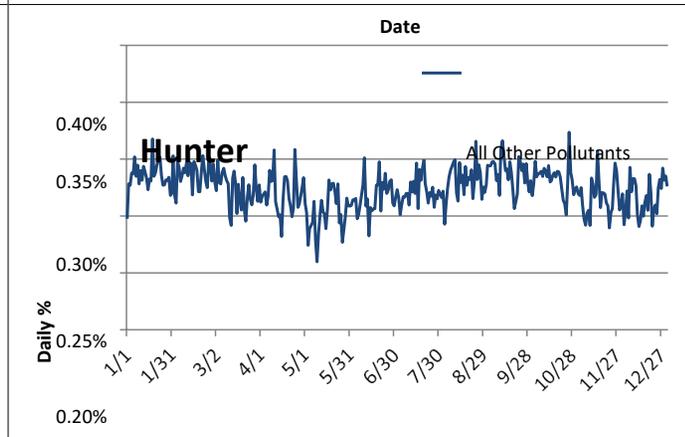
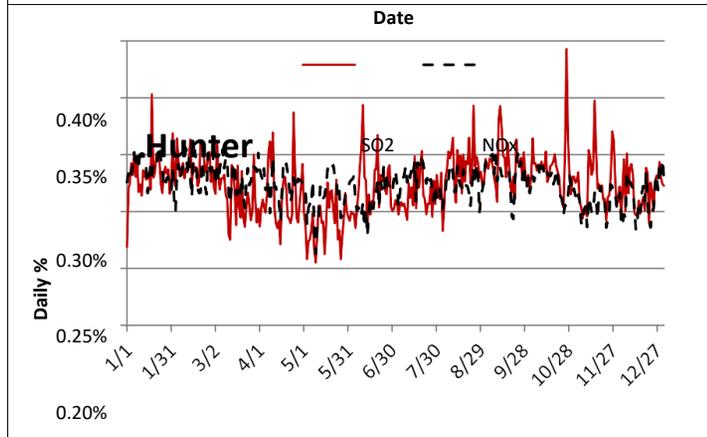
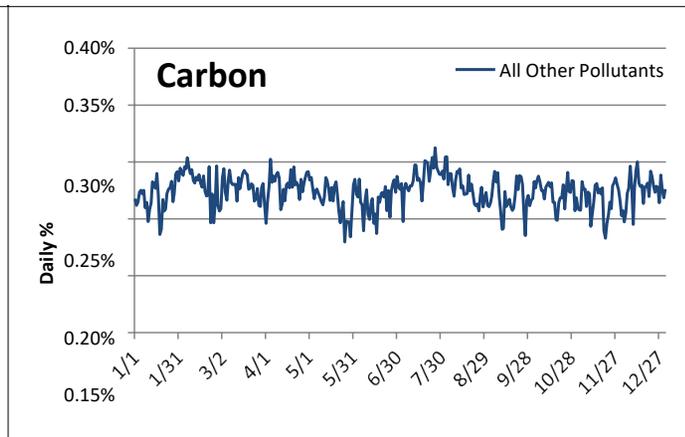
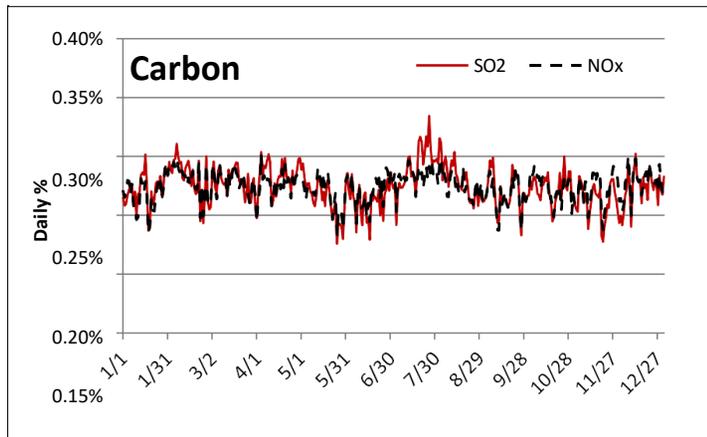
### 2.1.2 Baseline (2025) Modeling Scenario

The Baseline modeling scenario represents the emission values in the future year (2025) before any additional control technology (other than controls that were in operation during the PacifiCorp power plants baseline period of 2001-2003) was placed on any of the PacifiCorp units to reduce emissions. This scenario provides a baseline to compare the relative visibility improvement of the USEPA FIP and Utah SIP modeling scenarios. In general, the Baseline modeling scenario is based on the dataset provided by the 2025 WAQS modeling platform. However, the emissions of PacifiCorp power plants are representative of the period 2001 to 2003 and are identical to those described in the Typical Year (2011) scenario above. The temporal profile used for PacifiCorp power plants emissions is described in Section 2.1.1. The annual emissions for the Baseline scenario are shown in **Table 2-3**.

**Table 2-3: PacifiCorp Power Plants Emissions for the Baseline Modeling Scenario by Unit**

Plant	Unit	NO <sub>x</sub> tpy	SO <sub>2</sub> Tpy	VOC tpy	CO Tpy	PM <sub>10</sub> tpy	PM <sub>2.5</sub> tpy	NH <sub>3</sub> Tpy
Carbon	1	1,312	2,286	7.4	61.6	119.9	86.9	1.3
	2	1,977	3,528	11.3	93.9	182.9	132.5	1.9
Hunter	1	6,380	2,535	45.1	375.4	733.0	537.0	8.4
	2	6,092	2,531	44.1	367.5	717.4	525.5	8.2
	3	6,530	1,204	32.6	271.8	530.6	388.7	6.1
Huntington	1	5,944	2,380	28.3	235.8	517.2	331.1	4.9
	2	5,816	12,308	56.5	470.7	1,032.6	661.0	9.7

Like the Typical Year Scenario, all remaining EGUs emissions and temporal profiles remain unchanged from the data provided by the 2025 WAQS modeling platform.



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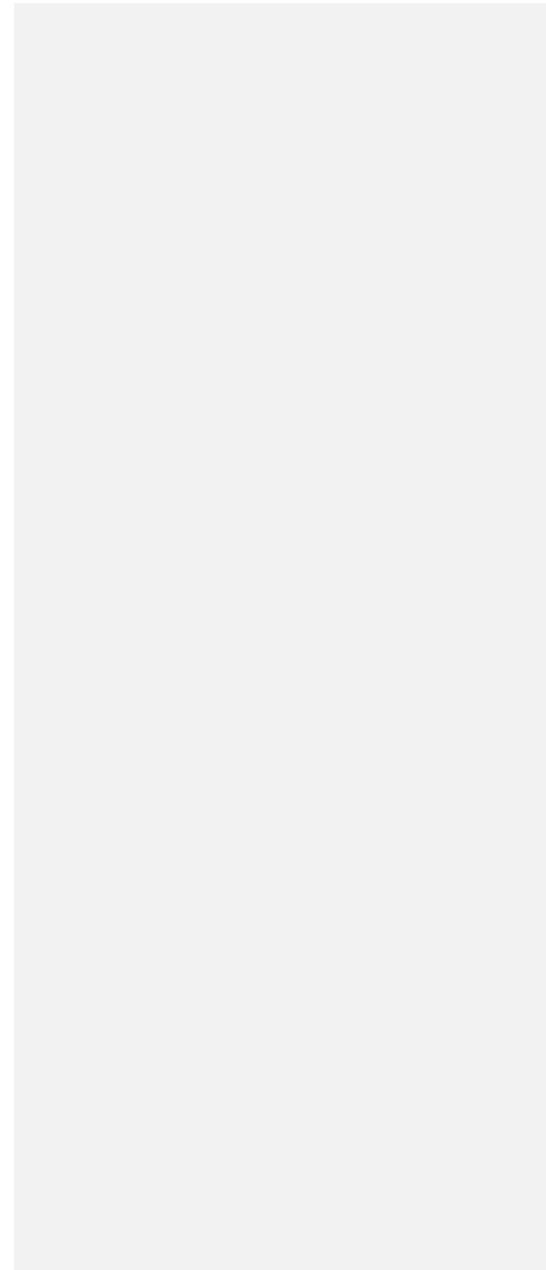
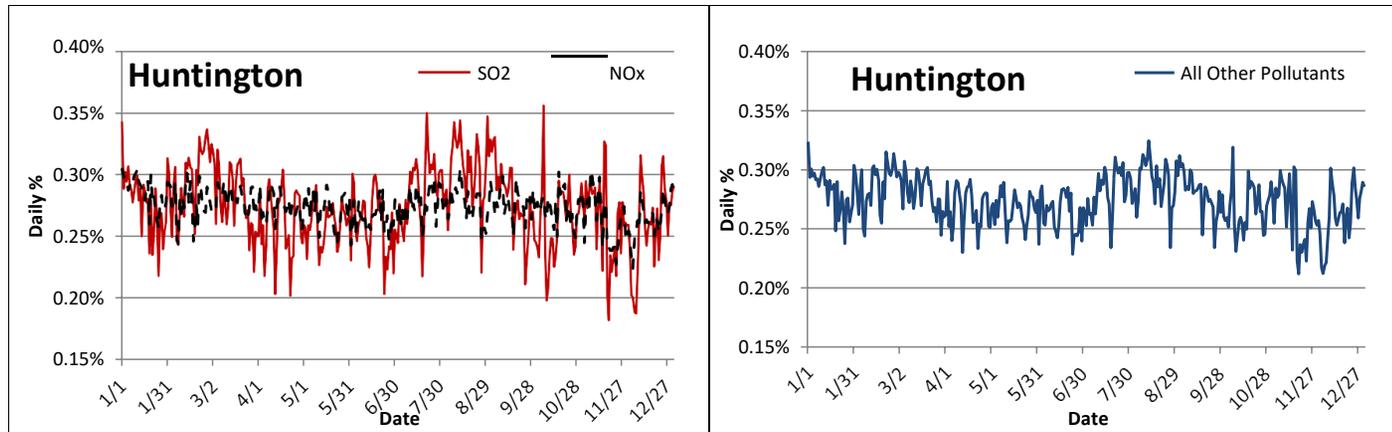


Figure 2-1: Emissions Temporal Profiles for NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> (left) and all other Pollutants (right)



### 2.1.3 USEPA FIP (2025) Modeling Scenario

The USEPA FIP modeling scenario is based on emission reductions that would take place as required by the FIP promulgated by the USEPA. The annual emissions for this modeling scenario are shown in **Table 2-4**. The values presented here represent the USEPA FIP for PacifiCorp Hunter Units 1 and 2 and Huntington Units 1 and 2 that includes Low-NO<sub>x</sub> Burners (LNB) with Separate Over-fire Air (SOFA) controls and Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) controls. NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are reduced from the baseline using information presented in the FIP. The NO<sub>x</sub> emission reduction values for LNB with SOFA and SCR control option found in Tables 2 through 5 of the FIP for each unit were subtracted from the baseline emissions. The resulting total controlled annual emission rate is 0.05 lb/MMBtu consistent with USEPA's BART analysis. All other pollutant emissions, except SO<sub>2</sub>, are the same as the baseline. The NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from Carbon Units 1 and 2 and Hunter Unit 3 are the same as the baseline as these are non-BART sources according to the FIP (USEPA 2015a, 2016a)

**Table 2-4: PacifiCorp Power Plants Emissions for USEPA FIP Modeling Scenario by Unit**

Plant	Unit	NO <sub>x</sub> tpy	SO <sub>2</sub> tpy	VOC tpy	CO Tpy	PM <sub>10</sub> tpy	PM <sub>2.5</sub> Tpy	NH <sub>3</sub> tpy
Carbon	1	1,312	2,286	7.4	61.6	119.9	86.9	1.3
	2	1,977	3,528	11.3	93.9	182.9	132.5	1.9
Hunter	1	796	1,153	45.1	375.4	733	537	8.4
	2	798	1,408	44.1	367.5	717.4	525.5	8.2
	3	6,530	1,230	32.6	271.8	530.6	388.7	6.1
Huntington	1	793	1,254	28.3	235.8	517.2	331.1	4.9
	2	753	1,201	56.5	470.7	1,032.6	661	9.7

### 2.1.4 Utah SIP (2025) Modeling Scenario

The Utah SIP scenario consists of emission reductions due to the emission control strategy proposed by PacifiCorp. The Utah SIP BART Alternative scenario includes all the units of Hunter and Huntington that correspond to emissions levels representative of the period 2014 to 2016. Notice that this BART alternative also requires decommissioning the Carbon plant in April 2015 and thus the emissions related to this facility for all pollutants are set to zero. The annual emissions for this modeling scenario are shown in **Table 2-5**. The temporal profile is the same as the one described in Section 2.1.1 and like all other future-year emissions scenarios the remaining EGUs emissions (except for PacifiCorp power plants) remain unchanged from the 2025 WAQS modeling platform.

**Table 2-5: PacifiCorp Power Plants Emissions for the Utah SIP Modeling Scenario by Unit**

Plant	Unit	NO <sub>x</sub> tpy	SO <sub>2</sub> Tpy	VOC tpy	CO Tpy	PM <sub>10</sub> tpy	PM <sub>2.5</sub> tpy	NH <sub>3</sub> tpy
Carbon	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hunter	1	3,166	1,153	45.1	375.4	733	537	8.4
	2	3,028	1,408	44.1	367.5	717.4	525.5	8.2
	3	4,490	1,230	32.6	271.8	530.6	388.7	6.1
Huntington	1	3,147	1,254	28.3	235.8	517.2	331.1	4.9
	2	3,366	1,201	56.5	470.7	1,032.6	661	9.7

## 2.2 Regional Emissions Inventories and Modeling Domains

The regional photochemical model's skill to estimate air quality and visibility impacts depends on its ability to simulate the complex interactions that occur between primary emissions sources (i.e., input emissions inventory) and meteorological conditions (i.e., output data from the WRF model). An important step is the gathering and processing of the emissions inventory for all sources within the modeling domain. The emissions inventory development process is described in detail within the context of the modeling domain.

### 2.2.1 Description of the Modeling Domains

A common strategy for regional photochemical modeling is to develop several nested modeling domains with finer grid resolution surrounding the areas of primary interest. In this case, the area of interest centers in the state of Utah where PacifiCorp power plants are located as shown in **Figure 2-2**. The largest domain has a 36-km horizontal grid resolution (i.e., each grid cell is 36-km on a side), a smaller domain with a 12-km grid resolution, and the finest domain with a 4-km grid resolution centered on Utah and the Class I areas of interest. The modeling domains are described in further detail below and shown in **Figure 2-2**. For this study, the WAQS 36-km and 12-km modeling results were used to provide pollutant concentrations entering the 4-km domain, referred to as lateral boundary conditions (BC) for the 4-km grid domain, and only the 4-km grid was used to conduct the modeling and corresponding visibility analysis.

#### 2.2.1.1 Horizontal Modeling Domain

The CAMx modeling domain used in this assessment is based on the Regional Planning Organizations' (RPO) unified grid map projection, which has been used by both the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) and USEPA. The RPO unified grid consists of a Lambert Conformal Conic (LCC) map projection with the parameters listed in **Table 2-6**. **Table 2-7** lists the size and dimensions of the WAQS 36-km and 12-km modeling domains along with the 4-km modeling domain defined for the visibility assessment of PacifiCorp's power plants. Notice that the coordinates for the 12-km and 4-km domains include the buffer cells required for performing two-way nested simulations. The WAQS performed 36-km and 12-km two-way nesting CAMx simulations for year 2011 and 2025 using the domains shown in **Figure 2-2**. The 12-km domain concentrations were used to establish the lateral boundary conditions of the 4-km domain when modeling both the base and future years for this analysis.

**Table 2-6: RPO Unified Grid Definition**

Parameter	Value
Projection	Lambert-Conformal Conic
Datum	World Geodetic System 1984
Standard Parallel 1	33° latitude N
Standard Parallel 2	45° latitude N
Central Meridian	97° longitude W
Latitude of Origin	40° latitude N

**Table 2-7: CAMx Model Domain Dimensions**

Domain	Number of Grid Cells	Coordinates of Southwestern Corner of Grid (km)
36-km	148 x 112	-2736, -2088
12-km	227 x 230	-2388, -1236
This study 4-km	182 x 149	-1516, -412

**2.2.1.2 Vertical Modeling Domain**

The CAMx vertical domain structure depends on the definition of the WRF vertical layers structure with thinner (more) layers within the planetary boundary layer (PBL). The PBL is the lowest part of the atmosphere where the physical properties of the air are directly influenced by its contact with the ground surface. Within the PBL, the wind is affected by surface drag, influencing the wind speed, wind direction, and turbulence. The atmosphere above the PBL typically is referred to as the "free atmosphere" where the wind is usually non-turbulent, or only intermittently turbulent. Due to the different physical characteristics between the free atmosphere and the PBL, it is important to have the PBL well resolved in meteorological models. The vertical extent of the PBL changes throughout the day and season.

The altitudes above sea level were estimated according to standard atmosphere assumptions used in the WRF model.<sup>1</sup> The WAQS used WRF with 37 vertical layer interfaces from the surface up to 50 millibar (mb) (~19 km above ground level [AGL]). A layer averaging scheme is adopted for the CAMx simulations whereby multiple WRF layers are combined into one CAMx layer to reduce the air quality model computational time. The WAQS (IWDW 2016a) indicates that the lowest layers of WRF were mapped directly into CAMx with no layer collapsing; the WRF layer 1 thickness, at 12 m was found to be too shallow and may trap emissions in a too shallow layer resulting in overstated surface concentrations. Also, the WAQS mentioned that several previous studies, like the 2008 Denver ozone SIP, have shown that collapsing layers that are higher aloft, results in thick vertical layers near the top of the modeling domain that contribute to the too rapid transport of high ozone concentrations of stratospheric ozone origin to the ground. The layer structure used in the modeling is summarized in **Table 2-8**, which displays the approach for collapsing the WRF 37 vertical layers to 25 vertical layers in CAMx.

<sup>1</sup> Standard equations and assumptions include: surface pressure of 1,000 mb, model top at 100 mb, surface temperature of 275 degrees Kelvin (°K), and lapse rate of 50°K/ natural log-pressure (ln[p]).

Figure 2-2: CAMx Modeling Domains



**Table 2-8: Vertical Layer Structure Used for WRF and CAMx Modeling Simulations**

WRF Meteorological Model					CAMx Air Quality Model		
WRF Layer	Sigma	Pressure (mb)	Height (m)	Thickness (m)	CAMx Layer	Height (m)	Thickness (m)
37	0	50	19,260	2,055	25	19,260	3,904.9
36	0.027	75.65	17,205	1,850			
35	0.06	107	15,355	1,725	24	15,355.1	3,425.4
34	0.1	145	13,630	1,701			
33	0.15	192.5	11,930	1,389	23	11,929.7	2,569.6
32	0.2	240	10,541	1,181			
31	0.25	287.5	9,360	1,032	22	9,360.1	1,952.2
30	0.3	335	8,328	920			
29	0.35	382.5	7,408	832	21	7,407.9	1,591.8
28	0.4	430	6,576	760			
27	0.45	477.5	5,816	701	20	5,816.1	1,352.9
26	0.5	525	5,115	652			
25	0.55	572.5	4,463	609	19	4,463.3	609.2
24	0.6	620	3,854	461	18	3,854.1	460.7
23	0.64	658	3,393	440	17	3,393.4	439.6
22	0.68	696	2,954	421	16	2,953.7	420.6
21	0.72	734	2,533	403	15	2,533.1	403.3
20	0.76	772	2,130	388	14	2,129.7	387.6
19	0.8	810	1,742	373	13	1,742.2	373.1
18	0.84	848	1,369	271	12	1,369.1	271.1
17	0.87	876.5	1,098	177	11	1,098	176.8
16	0.89	895.5	921	174	10	921.2	173.8
15	0.91	914.5	747	171	9	747.5	170.9
14	0.93	933.5	577	84	8	576.6	168.1
13	0.94	943	492	84			
12	0.95	952.5	409	83	7	408.6	83
11	0.96	962	326	82	6	325.6	82.4
10	0.97	971.5	243	82	5	243.2	81.7
9	0.98	981	162	41	4	161.5	64.9
8	0.985	985.75	121	24			
7	0.988	988.6	97	24	3	96.6	40.4
6	0.991	991.45	72	16			
5	0.993	993.35	56	16	2	56.2	32.2
4	0.995	995.25	40	16			
3	0.997	997.15	24	12	1	24.1	24.1
2	0.9985	998.58	12	12			
1	1	1000	0	0			

### 2.2.2 Regional Emissions Inventory Data

This section provides a description of the regional emissions inventory used for both the 2011 Typical Year, and the three 2025 future-year scenarios.

The Typical Year inventory produced for the 4-km simulation used emission inputs developed for the WAQS (IWDW 2016a and 2016b) as shown in **Table 2-9**. **Table 2-10** shows the data sources for the future-year emissions inventory. Other than the PacifiCorp power plants' emissions, all other emission datasets remain constant among the three future-year modeling scenarios. Maintaining consistent model inputs enables comparison of the effects of different emissions scenarios.

A complete emissions inventory for photochemical modeling includes point sources, area sources, non-road and on-road mobile sources, as well as ammonia emissions, windblown dust, biogenic emissions, and fire emissions. Ammonia emissions include agriculture, fertilizer, and livestock emission sources. Regional emissions sources that are identical for all modeling scenarios include: windblown dust, biogenic, lightning, and fire emissions.

#### Emissions Sources Held Constant for all Scenarios

Windblown dust emissions can be a significant source of PM. For the WAQS study, the WRAP windblown dust model was run with 2011 meteorological data to provide an estimate of windblown coarse and fine soil dust emissions for each modeling domain.

The most current version of the Model of Emissions of Gases and Aerosols for Nature (MEGAN version 2.1), as developed by National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), was used to estimate biogenic emissions for the WAQS. MEGAN requires several types of input data, including: vegetation input data (Leaf area indices); emissions factors; classification of a grid cell's plant functional types (PFT); and wilting point for each PFT. MEGAN also requires as input hourly, gridded temperature and solar radiation data to estimate biogenic emissions. These data were derived from the WAQS and WRF model output.

Important sources of PM and ozone precursors in the fire emissions inventory include wildfires, prescribed burning and agricultural burning. The WAQS used the 2011 fire emissions inventory generated by the Particulate Matter Deterministic and Empirical Tagging and Assessment of Impacts on Levels (PMDETAIL) study.

#### 2.2.2.1 2011 Typical year Emissions Inventory

As stated previously, the typical year modeling used the WAQS emissions inventory with no additional modifications, other than those for PacifiCorp power plants described above. The typical year emissions inventory processed for WAQS is shown in **Table 2-9**. Most of the emissions modeling is based on version 6.2 of the 2011 NEI from the USEPA with additional enhancements as described in the WAQS Modeling Protocol (IWDW 2016a and 2016b).

**Table 2-9: Typical Year 2011 Emissions Inventory Data Sources from WAQS**

Component	Configuration	Details
PacifiCorp power plants: Carbon, Hunter, and Huntington	See Section 2.1.1	See Section 2.1.1
Oil and Gas Emissions	WAQS 2011p1 and 2011 NEIv6	Used the WAQS 2011 Phase I inventory and the NEI 2011v6 inventory for all areas outside of the WAQS inventory coverage area
Non-point Source	2011 NEIv6	County-level emissions for sources that individually are too small in magnitude or too numerous to inventory as individual point sources.
On-road Mobile	2011 NEIv6 via MOVES20110414a	County specific emissions run for monthly weekday and weekend days. California and Texas MOVES estimates were normalized to emission values provided by these states
Point Sources	2011 Continuous Emissions Monitoring (CEM) and 2011 NEIv6	Use 2011 day-specific hourly measured CEM from the CAMD for SO <sub>2</sub> and NO <sub>x</sub> emissions for CEM sources, 2011 NEIv6 for other pollutants and non-CEM sources
Off-road Mobile Sources	2011 NEIv6	Based on USEPA NONROAD2008a model
Biogenic Sources	MEGAN	Enhanced version of MEGAN Version 2.1
Wind Blown Dust Emissions	WRAP Wind Blown Dust (WBD)	WRAP WBD Model with 2011 WRF meteorology
Fires	PMDETAIL	Hourly agricultural, prescribed, and wildfire sources with pre-computed plume parameters and speciated PM
Mexico Sources	MNEI2012	Mexican NEI 2012
Canada Sources	NPRI2006	Canadian 2006 National Pollutant Release Inventory
Lightning NO <sub>x</sub>	2011 WRF	Gridded hourly nitric oxide (NO) emissions tied to WRF convective rainfall
Sea salt	2011 WRF	Surf zone and open ocean PM emissions tied to WRF

The USEPA NEI database contains information relative to sources that emit criteria air pollutants and their precursors. The database includes estimates of annual air pollutant emissions from point, nonpoint, and mobile sources in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The USEPA collects information about sources and releases an updated version of the NEI database every 3 years.

The USEPA compiles the NEI database from these primary sources:

- Emissions inventories compiled by state and local environmental agencies;
- Databases related to the USEPA Maximum Achievable Control Technology programs to reduce emissions of hazardous air pollutants;
- Toxic Release Inventory data;
- Emission Tracking System CEM data and Department of Energy fuel use data (for electric generating units);
- Federal Highway Administration estimate of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and emissions factors from the USEPA motor vehicle emission simulator (MOVES) computer model (for on-road sources);

- NONROAD computer model (for non-road sources); and
- Previous emissions inventories (if states do not submit current data).

**2.2.2.2 Future Year Modeling Scenarios**

The future-year emissions inventory is based on the future-year projected inventory from the WAQS as outlined in **Table 2-10**. The main data sources are the 2025 Projections from the 2011 NEI v6 inventory. The 2011 emissions of windblown dust, biogenic, lightning, sea salt, and fire sources categories are used in the future-year modeling scenarios, which is consistent with the 2025 Projections from the 2011 NEI v6 development approach whereby the non-anthropogenic emissions do not change between the typical year and future-year modeling scenarios.

**Table 2-10: Future-Year Modeling Scenarios Emissions Inventory Data Sources**

Major Source Type	Location	Projection Method
Point Sources	PacifiCorp power plants	See Sections 2.1.2 to 2.1.4
	Whole Domain	2025 Projections from the 2011 NEI v6
Area Sources	Whole Domain	2025 Projections from the 2011 NEI v6
Oil and Gas	Whole Domain	2025 Projections from the 2011 NEI v6
On-road Mobile sources	Whole Domain	2025 Projected MOVES lookup tables from MOVES2010b
Off-road Mobile Sources	Whole Domain	2025 Projections from the 2011 NEI v6 inventory
Ammonia Emissions	Whole Domain	2025 Projections from the 2011 NEI v6 inventory
Biogenic	Whole Domain	Hold typical year 2011 emissions constant.
Wind Blown Dust Emissions	Whole Domain	Hold typical year 2011 emissions constant.
Fires	Whole Domain	Hold typical year 2011 emissions constant.
Non-US sources	Outside US	Hold typical year 2011 emissions constant.
Lightning NO <sub>x</sub>	Whole Domain	Hold typical year 2011 emissions constant.
Sea salt	Whole Domain	Hold typical year 2011 emissions constant.

## 3.0 Photochemical Model Configuration

This chapter provides a detailed description of the CAMx model configuration and other inputs used in this analysis. Required configuration and input data includes a defined modeling domain, gridded meteorological data, emissions data, and a set of ancillary files required for the physical and chemical reaction calculations. The CAMx model configurations and input data were identical for all scenarios, except for emissions that have already been described in Chapter 2 for each model scenario.

### 3.1 Approach Overview

The CAMx modeling system includes both meteorological (WRF model) and emissions processing models (SMOKE), in addition to the photochemical grid model. This chapter provides a detailed description of the CAMx modeling system setup and configuration used in this analysis. The CAMx modeling system was used to simulate the typical year and three modeling scenarios as described in Chapters 1.0 and 2.0.

The 2011 Three-State Air Quality Study (WAQS) WRF modeling has been used to provide the meteorological input to the WAQS and Western Air Quality Study (WAQS) (IWDW 2016a and 2016b). The same gridded meteorological data is used in the CAMx modeling simulations described in this report. The emissions inventory was processed in a similar and consistent manner, with the emissions specific to PacifiCorp power plants changing accordingly for each modeling simulation. The CAMx model configurations, 4-km domain boundary conditions and other ancillary data are identical in all modeling cases.

The modeling methodology follows USEPA's established guidance on the use of regional PGM modeling procedures for demonstrating the achievement of air quality goals for PM, and regional haze (USEPA 2007, 2014). Finally, the CAMx modeling results were post-processed to derive model estimates of light extinction coefficients for inter-comparison among all the scenarios considered in this analysis.

### 3.2 Meteorological Input

Photochemical grid models require meteorological data to simulate air quality conditions. A prognostic meteorology model such as the WRF model (Skamarock et al. 2008; NCAR 2009) is generally used to provide gridded meteorological data at the same grid resolutions and spatial extent of the PGM computational domains.

This study relies on the WRF meteorological modeling conducted for the 2011 WAQS platform. The WRF modeling results for the 2011 annual period were evaluated against surface meteorological observations of wind speed, wind direction, temperature and humidity. The complete description of both the WRF configuration and the results of the model performance evaluation are detailed in the WRF Final Report (UNC and Ramboll Environ 2015).

The WAQS processed the WRF model output files using the WRFCAMx and Meteorology-chemistry interface processor (MCIP) processors to generate meteorological fields that drive both the CAMx air quality simulations and emission processing. Air quality models require certain meteorological input data including wind fields, estimates of turbulent eddy dispersion, humidity, temperature, clouds, and solar radiation. Additionally, the WRF meteorological parameters are used to solve the transport and chemical reaction equations in the air quality model.

The WAQS provided both the WRF model output and the CAMx-ready meteorology derived with WRFCAMx. This assessment leverages the CAMx-ready meteorological inputs from the original 4-km WAQS domain, but they were extracted to match the horizontal domain defined in **Table 2-7**.

### 3.3 Emissions Processing using SMOKE

The SMOKE emissions processing system was developed by MCNC (Coats 1995; Houyoux and Vukovich 1999) and has continued to be developed and maintained through the Center for Environmental Modeling for Policy Development (CEMPD) of the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill Institute for the Environment (IE). SMOKE is an emissions processing system that converts emissions inventory data into the formatted emissions files required by an air quality simulation model. SMOKE supports area, fire, and point source emissions processing and can run emissions models that require meteorological data, such as biogenic models or mobile source models. SMOKE has been available since 1996 and has been used for emissions processing in numerous regional air quality modeling applications, such as WRAP visibility studies and O<sub>3</sub> modeling for SIPs, and it is the preferred emissions processing system by USEPA. SMOKE contains several major features that make it a useful component of the CAMx modeling system and it supports a variety of input formats from other emissions processing systems and models.

SMOKE originally was designed to allow emissions data processing methods to utilize emergent high-performance-computing as it is applied to sparse-matrix algorithms. The sparse matrix approach utilized throughout SMOKE permits both rapid and flexible processing of emissions data. The processing is rapid because SMOKE utilizes a series of matrix calculations instead of the less efficient algorithms used in previous systems. The processing is flexible because the processing steps of temporal projection, controls, chemical speciation, temporal allocation, and spatial allocation have been separated into independent operations wherever possible. The results from these steps are merged together at a final stage of processing.

#### 3.3.1 SMOKE Processing

SMOKE was configured to generate emissions files in a format compatible with CAMx. There are several different types of emissions processed by SMOKE, including point, area, non-road, on-road, fire, and biogenic emissions. These source types can be processed separately to prepare emission inventories for modeling with a PGM. SMOKE consists of several processing routines:

- **Spatial Allocation.** The spatial resolution of the emissions must match the CAMx grid cells for each domain. Initial area, non-road mobile, and on-road mobile emission inventories are spatially resolved at the county level, an area that is much too coarse for the CAMx grid resolution. Therefore, county-level emissions are allocated to the grid cells within each county based on spatial surrogates (e.g., population, land use categories, and economic activity).
- **Chemical Speciation.** Emission inventories do not routinely include estimates of each chemical species, rather total VOC, total PM, and NO<sub>x</sub> are reported. Emissions of total VOC are converted to estimates of number of carbon bond types required for use of the Carbon Bond version 6 release 2 (CB6r2) (Yarwood et al. 2010) chemical mechanism in CAMx. Total unspciated NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are allocated to NO and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) components (and nitrous acid (HONO) in some emissions sectors). PM is allocated to coarse PM, nitrate, sulfate, organic carbon, elemental carbon, and other fine particulates. Speciation profiles for each emissions source classification code (SCC) are consistent with the profiles from the WAQS.
- **Temporal Allocation.** Emissions are provided for different averaging periods for each source type. Those source types with annual or short-term emission rates are adjusted to seasonal or monthly profiles accounting for day-of-week and hour-of-day differences. Area sources, including non-road mobile and dust emissions are allocated by monthly, daily, and hourly profiles provided by the USEPA. Biogenic and on-road mobile emissions are modeled using hourly meteorological data. Point sources, including CEM data and fire emissions, are modeled with available day-specific, or hour specific emissions and meteorology.

- **Elevated Sources.** For point sources with plume rise of greater than 20m, those point sources are treated as elevated sources. Except for PacifiCorp power plants, no Plume-in-Grid (PiG) treatment is applied to any other elevated point sources.
- **Quality Assurance.** SMOKE includes quality assurance (QA) and reporting features to keep track of the adjustments at each processing stage and ensure that data integrity is not compromised.

All ancillary files used for SMOKE processing were obtained from the WAQS, except for the PacifiCorp power plants-specific emissions data that has already been detailed in Chapter 2.

In general, all emissions are processed by SMOKE in a manner consistent with the WAQS. As stated in Chapter 2.0, the typical year emission inventories for all domains are directly taken from the WAQS, which were processed using the SMOKE model. Since the 4-km domain used in this study is a subdomain of the original 4-km WAQS, the final emissions from the 4-km WAQS domain have been extracted to match the horizontal domain defined in **Table 2-7**. Regional emissions have been reprocessed and combined with the modified PacifiCorp power plant emissions through SMOKE in a manner consistent with the WAQS.

### 3.3.2 Emissions Inventory Quality Assurance

In addition to the CAMx-ready input files generated by SMOKE for each hour of each modeled day, several QA files were prepared and used to check for errors in the emissions inputs.

Importing the model-ready emissions into the Package for Analysis and Visualization of Environmental data (PAVE) or the NCAR Command Language (NCL) for visualization and looking at both the spatial and temporal distribution of the emissions, provides insight into the quality and accuracy of the emissions inputs. The QA procedures for the processed emissions data included the following:

- Visualization of the model-ready emissions with the scale of the plots set to a low value. This shows whether there are areas omitted from the raw inventory or if emissions sources are erroneously located in cells over water.
- State inventory summaries prepared prior to the emissions processing are compared against SMOKE output report totals generated after each major step of the emissions generation process.

To check the chemical speciation of the emissions to CB6r2 terms and the vertical allocation of the emissions, automatically generated reports are compared with SMOKE reports to target specific areas of the processing. For speciation, the inventory state totals are compared to the same state totals with the speciation matrix applied.

The quantitative QA review did not reveal any specific deficiencies in the input data or the model setup. Special care was given to the PacifiCorp power plants emissions for the various scenarios. SMOKE reports were generated to review that the correct elevated source have been selected as elevated and plume-in-grid has been included.

### 3.4 CAMx Model Inputs

In addition to meteorological and emissions data, CAMx requires other ancillary data to configure each simulation. The purpose of the CAMx ancillary data is to set initial conditions (IC) and boundary conditions (BC), define the chemical mechanism, describe the photochemical conditions, and describe surface characteristics. CAMx modeling inputs include:

- CAMx-ready three-dimensional (3-D) hourly meteorological fields generated by WRF-CAMx, the processor used to prepare input meteorology files from the WRF output;

- Two-dimensional low-level (surface layer) emissions and elevated point source emissions generated by the SMOKE emissions processor;
- Initial conditions (IC) and boundary conditions (BC) generated by the CAMx IC/BC processors. The 36-km domain lateral boundaries concentrations in the WAQS are based on the Model for Ozone and Related chemical Tracers (MOZART) global chemistry model;
- Albedo/Haze/O<sub>3</sub> Column input file;
- Photolysis rates look up table; and
- Land use and topography data.

**Table 3-1** summarizes the CAMx configuration used for this study. This assessment leverages the three-dimensional 12-km 2025 future-year outputs provided by the WAQS to set ancillary files such as the boundary and initial conditions of the computational domain defined in Chapter 2. This approach ensures consistency with the original modeling platform. The CAMx simulations use the vertical layers described in **Table 2-8**. The Piecewise Parabolic Method (PPM) advection solver is used along with the spatially varying horizontal diffusion approach. Vertical diffusion in CAMx is modeled by K-theory. This study is consistent with the original WAQS modeling platform that used a specific meteorology and CAMx version for the winter period (defined as January 1 to March 31).

**Table 3-1: CAMx Air Quality Model Configurations**

Science Options	Configuration	Details
Model Version	CAMx V6.10 CAMx V6.40	V6.10 used for April to December V6.40 used for January to March
Vertical Grid Mesh	25 vertical layers collapsed from WRF's 37 vertical layers structure	Layer 1 thickness ~24- m. Model top at ~19-km (AGL)
Grid Interaction	One-way nesting for the 4-km domain.	This assessment relies on the modeling output for the WAQS 12-km domain.
Plume-in-Grid (PiG)	Invoke PiG for all the units for the three PacifiCorp power plants	Subgrid-scale plume chemistry and dynamics module used for PacifiCorp power plants
Initial Conditions	7 day spin-up for 4-km domain simulations	4-km IC derived from 12-km modeling results
Boundary Conditions	36-km from MOZART global chemistry model	4-km boundary conditions derived from 12-km modeling results. Increased ammonia concentrations along northern boundary by a factor of 7.51 for January, February and December
<b>Chemistry</b>		
Gas Phase Chemistry	CB6r2	Carbon Bond 6 version 2 for the entire year
Aerosol Chemistry	Inorganic aerosol thermodynamics/partitioning model (ISORROPIA) equilibrium	
Cloud Chemistry	Regional Acid Deposition Model (RADM)-type aqueous chemistry	
Meteorological Processor	WRF-CAMx	Compatible with CAMx v6.10
Horizontal Transport	K-theory with grid size dependent coefficient of horizontal eddy diffusion	

**Table 3-1: CAMx Air Quality Model Configurations**

Science Options	Configuration	Details
Vertical Transport	K-theory (CMAQ-like in WRF-CAMx)	Lower limit of vertical eddy diffusivity = 0.1 m <sup>2</sup> /s or 2.0 m <sup>2</sup> /s. Land use dependent
Deposition Scheme	Zhang dry deposition and CAMx-specific formulation for wet deposition	Ammonia deposition velocity rates are decreased by setting the parameter RSCALE to 1 for January, February and December
<b>Numerics</b>		
Gas Phase Chemistry Solver	Euler Backward Iterative (EBI)	
Horizontal Advection Scheme	Piecewise Parabolic Method (PPM) scheme	
Integration Time Step	Wind speed dependent	~0.1-1 min (4-km), 1-5 min (12-km), 5-15 min (36-km)

As described above, meteorological inputs for CAMx are generated with the WRF-CAMx processor and the emissions inputs are generated with the SMOKE model. In addition to the meteorology and emissions inputs, CAMx requires ancillary data, including initial and boundary concentrations for all chemical species, and O<sub>3</sub> column data for calculating photolysis rates. The sources of these ancillary data are described below.

After the model is configured, PGM applications typically require a model performance evaluation (MPE) that compares model results with available observations. The MPE provides valuable information on the ability of the model to reproduce the processes that lead to the formation of pollutants. Detailed information on the MPE for this application is presented in Section 3.5. However, it is important to note here that at the suggestion of the USEPA, a separate analysis presented in **Appendix A**, was conducted to evaluate the ammonia concentrations along the lateral boundaries of the 4-km computational domain. This analysis has led to two changes from the original WAQS modeling:

1. Increased ammonia through the northern lateral boundary conditions of the 4-km domain
2. Reduction of ammonia deposition velocity rates by setting the RSCALE parameter to 1

The changes are intended to improve the model performance for ammonia ambient concentrations in this study. Both modifications were performed for the months of January, February and December which are more representative of the climatological winter period in Utah.

#### 3.4.1 Initial and Boundary Concentration Data

Additional input data required for photochemical grid model simulations include the three-dimensional concentration fields of chemical species to initialize the model, and concentrations of chemical species at the lateral boundaries of the 4-km domain.

Typically, initial concentration values are created by performing a model spin-up simulation. The CAMx spin-up simulation is initialized using initial concentrations meant to represent clean atmospheric conditions and then continues using emissions and meteorological data for a pre-determined period. The three-dimensional initial concentrations generated from a spin-up simulation are more representative of actual ambient concentrations than default initial values. The results of the CAMx spin-up simulation are then used to initialize the CAMx modeling simulations, thereby eliminating the influence of the default initial concentration values.

The boundary concentration data for the WAQS 36-km modeling domain were derived from average concentrations of a 2011 MOZART global simulation. The MOZART horizontal and vertical coordinate systems were interpolated to the CAMx Lambert-Conformal Conic Projection. The MOZART chemical species

also are mapped to the CB6r2 chemical mechanism used in CAMx. It should be noted that because adverse model performance impacts were observed from excessive dust and sea salt particle concentrations entering the modeling domains from the outer boundary using MOZART in the WAQS 2011 base year simulation (IWDW 2016a and 2016b), both the dust and sea salt concentration were ultimately zeroed out for the CAMx boundary conditions.

For the 4-km computational domain used in this assessment, both the lateral boundary conditions and initial conditions have been derived from the three-dimensional concentrations available for the 12-km domain WAQS modeling results. The 4-km modeling for all scenarios were initialized with this data and the spin-up simulations performed for 7 days. To reduce the time required for annual model simulations, these were performed in separate runs of 3 months, each with their corresponding spin-up period. For this assessment all the vertical layers along the northern lateral boundary conditions were modified to increase the ammonia concentrations by a factor of 7.51 which is consistent with the analysis presented on **Table A-4 (Appendix A)**.

#### **3.4.2 Photolysis Rates**

Several chemical reactions in the atmosphere are initiated by the photo-dissociation of various trace gases. Accurate estimates of these photo-dissociation rates should be made to represent the complex chemical transformations in the atmosphere. The CAMx model AHOMAP processor prepares albedo/haze/O<sub>3</sub> column input files for CAMx. The CAMx total ultraviolet (TUV) preprocessor then calculates a table of clear-sky photolysis rates for each grid cell for a specific date. TUV accounts for environmental parameters that influence photolysis rates including solar zenith angle, altitude above the ground, surface ultraviolet albedo, aerosols (haze), and stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> column. Photolysis rates are derived for each grid cell assuming clear sky conditions as a function of five parameters including solar zenith angle, altitude, total O<sub>3</sub> column, surface reflectivity, and atmospheric turbidity. The CAMx version of TUV is modified to output information in a format directly compatible with CAMx for the CB6r2 chemical mechanism.

The surface ultraviolet albedo is calculated based on the gridded land use data using land use-specific ultraviolet (UV) albedo values. The albedo varies spatially according to the land cover distribution, but typically does not vary with time.

#### **3.5 Model Performance Evaluation**

This section provides a summary of the Model Performance Evaluations (MPE) for both the meteorological and photochemical models that conform the 2011b WAQS modeling platform. The MPE results help to understand and evaluate the biases, errors and limitations of the modeling platform and therefore the limitations of any subsequent analysis derived from the 2011b WAQS. Additionally, this section provides a summary of limited MPE that focuses only on the effects of changing ammonia concentrations discussed in Section 3.4 above and fully detailed in **Appendix B**.

##### **3.5.1 Meteorological Model Performance Evaluation**

Both qualitative and quantitative MPEs were performed to evaluate the WRF model for the 2011 base year annual simulation. The goal of this type of evaluation was to determine whether the meteorological fields are sufficiently accurate for the air quality model to properly characterize the transport, chemistry, and removal processes. Also, to provide a reasonable meteorological characterization, the WRF model should reproduce the large-scale patterns; mesoscale and regional wind, temperature, PBL height, humidity, cloud and precipitation patterns; mesoscale circulations such as sea breezes and mountain-drainage circulations; and diurnal cycles in PBL depth, temperature, and humidity. The details of the model performance can be found in 3SAQS Weather Research Forecast 2011 Meteorological Model Application/Evaluation Report (UNC and Ramboll Environ 2015). While the WRF model performance statistics showed good overall performance benchmarks for surface winds, temperature, and mixing ratios across the 4-km WAQS and 12-km domains on a domain-wide and state-by-state basis, it showed some limitations:

- WRF exhibited some difficulties simulating the nighttime temperature inversion in regions with mountainous terrain. It was found that warm bias at night in Utah during the winter months and cool bias during nighttime hours in other areas.
- WRF consistently under-predicted wind speed by about 0.5 m/s throughout the entire year across much of the modeling domains.
- A distinct seasonal pattern in mixing ratio bias was observed, in which WRF generally over-predicted the mixing ratio in the cooler months and under-predicted during the warmer months across much of the modeling domain.

In general, WRF reproduced well the spatial distribution and magnitudes of the Parameter-elevation Relationships on Independent Slopes Model (PRISM) monthly precipitation analysis fields during all seasons except summer when WRF monthly precipitations showed greater differences from the PRISM analysis fields during monsoon conditions.

### 3.5.2 Air Quality Model Performance Evaluation

As stated in Chapter 1, the WAQS performed photochemical grid modeling for the year 2011 using CAMx version 6.10. The WAQS also conducted a model performance evaluation for the WAQS 2011 base year simulation version B (Adelman et al 2016) for a wide range of air pollutants and air quality related values, including ozone, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, wet deposition, and light extinction. Since the focus of this assessment is the evaluation of visibility impacts, we summarize here the MPE results for PM<sub>2.5</sub>, as well as the light extinction MPE to disclose any limitations of the model for this study.

The WAQS MPE showed that on an annual and domain-wide basis, total PM<sub>2.5</sub> and all its components except nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub>), were within both performance criteria for bias ( $\leq \pm 60\%$ ) and error ( $\leq \pm 75\%$ ). CAMx showed significant under-prediction of NO<sub>3</sub> when comparing ambient monitoring data. The MPE indicates that nitrate is underestimated in all seasons, which could be due in part the result of overestimation of NO<sub>3</sub> deposition. However, it is more likely that the sources underestimate urban NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. For the state of Utah, the WAQS MPE indicates that the model shows good agreement for total PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The compositional differences relative to IMPROVE observations state-wide in Utah show large underestimates in organic carbon (OC), ammonium (NH<sub>4</sub>) and NO<sub>3</sub>, and overestimates in other-PM and sulfate (SO<sub>4</sub>).

In general, when comparing reconstructed light extinction to the IMPROVE estimates, CAMx slightly underestimates total light extinction across the 4-km domain and in Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah, despite some the differences that exist between species in different parts of the modeling domain. The CAMx annual average light extinction showed that the model underestimates the SO<sub>4</sub> contribution, which is offset by over-estimates of the sea salt contribution at many of the IMPROVE sites. CAMx also under-estimated the contribution of soil to light extinction, which is likely due to the over-correction of the boundary condition dust in simulation Base 11b.

The MPE results presented in Adelman et al. (2016) for the 2011b WAQS modeling platform indicate that the performance for ambient ammonia could be improved. This species is relevant since it is a precursor with an important effect in the formation of both particulate sulfate and nitrate. At the suggestion of the USEPA, we evaluated the differences in ammonia concentrations along the lateral boundaries of the 4-km computational domain. This analysis can be found in **Appendix A**. The analysis suggests that two changes in the modeling could have an impact to address the modeled ammonia under-prediction with the original 2011b platform.

The combined changes to the boundary concentrations and the ammonia deposition velocity required a characterization of the effect on the formation of secondary particulate formation. A revised MPE was performed using the 4-km domain definition and provided in detail in **Appendix B**. The model performance was assessed for a select subset of ambient air particle-phase pollutants for a three-month period that represents winter conditions, namely January, February and December. The MPE results showed that:

- 1) Model performance for sulfate between the original WAQS and the revised modeling with ammonia adjustments is extremely similar for all the months analyzed. The original WAQS results showed a consistent over-prediction of model-predicted sulfate concentrations. The adjusted model performance for sulfate shows that the changes to ammonia have almost no noticeable effect in the formation of sulfate in the Class I areas within the computational domain.
- 2) The WAQS performance shows systematic under-prediction of nitrate, ammonia and ammonium concentrations for all the months analyzed. The adjusted model simulations show that the ammonia configuration adjustments lead to significantly higher concentrations these species. Some species such as nitrate and ammonium now show slight over-predictions for certain months.
- 3) For ammonia, the adjusted model simulations still show under-predict concentrations relative to the observations. However, for all months the magnitude of negative biases gets reduced, which indicates better model performance.

In summary, the ammonia adjustments performed over the original 2011b WAQS modeling platform and explicitly simulated for this study's 4-km computational domain showed significant improvements in the model-predicted concentrations of sulfate, nitrate, ammonium and ammonia during the months of January, February and December when higher contributions of nitrate are expected to affect visibility in Class I areas.

### **3.6 PM Source Apportionment Technique**

The CAMx Particulate Source Apportionment Technology (PSAT) (Yarwood et al. 2004) was used to obtain an estimate of the contributions to PM and the corresponding visibility impairment in the future-year modeling analyses from each of the PacifiCorp power plants. PSAT provides source-category apportionment of modeled PM by individual species. PSAT has been developed to retain the advantage of using a grid model to describe the chemistry of secondary PM formation and provide an estimate of the contribution from individual sources, or groups of sources, to the total modeled concentration. PSAT was invoked to explicitly tag and track the contributions to PM from each PacifiCorp Power Plant within the modeling domain. The PSAT configuration in CAMx was setup to include the following tracers: Sulfur (Sulfate tracers), nitrogen (nitrate and ammonium tracers) and primary particulate matter (elemental carbon, organic aerosol, crustal PM tracers). Due to the relatively small modeled concentrations of secondary organic aerosols (SOA) from the power plants emissions, and the relatively large runtime penalty of the SOA PSAT mechanism, SOA was not selected to be part of the PSAT tracers for this study.

## 4.0 Visibility Impacts

This chapter describes the methodology used to assess the potential visibility impacts of the PacifiCorp's power plants, detailing how CAMx modeling results were post-processed into visibility estimates. In addition, this chapter compares the visibility impacts between the USEPA FIP and the Utah SIP modeling scenarios.

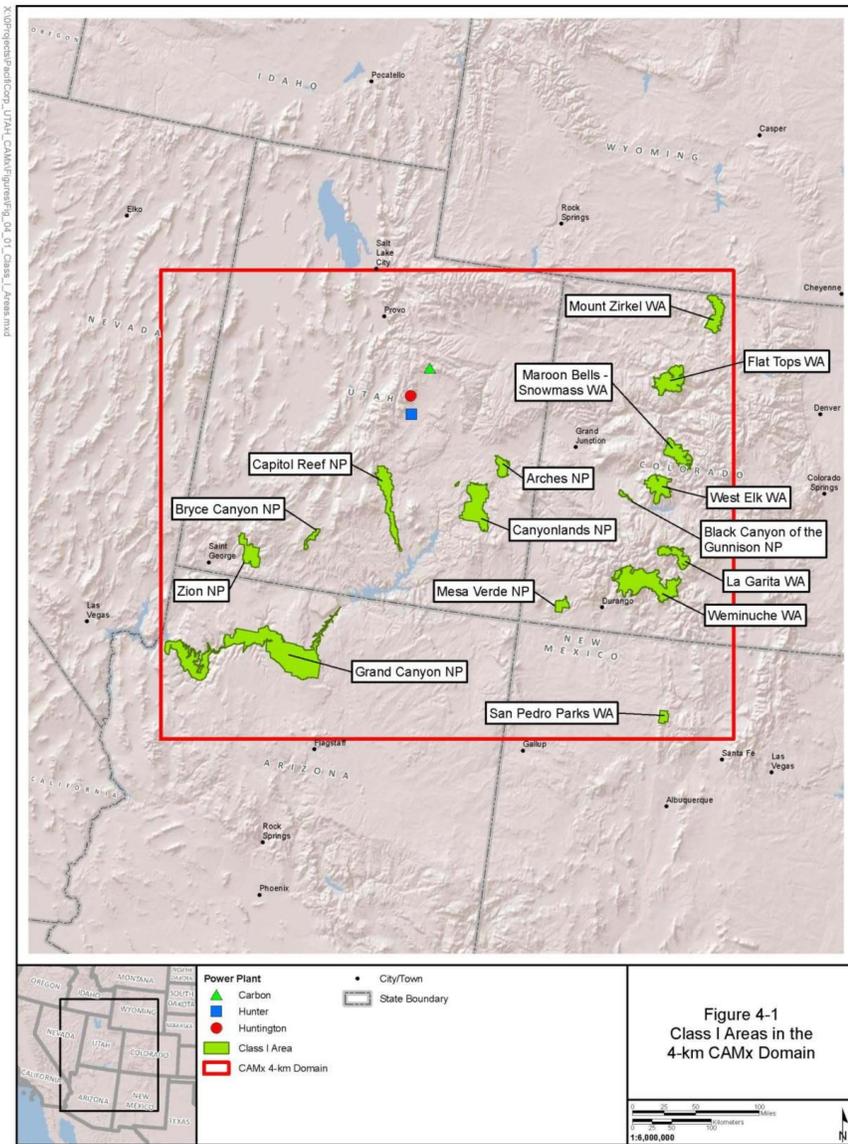
### 4.1. Visibility Impact Assessment Method

The CAMx configuration described in Chapter 3.0 was used to run the modeling scenarios described in Chapter 2.0. As configured, the CAMx model produces hourly results of both cumulative air quality concentrations and PacifiCorp's power plant contribution to PM species at every grid cell. The ultimate objective is to isolate the changes in visibility due to the different emissions scenarios described here. To assess compliance with Regional Haze Rule requirements, visibility changes are assessed during the 20 percent best visibility days and the 20 percent worst visibility days at each potentially affected, federally regulated Class I area. The following Class I areas were identified as having a potential to be affected by PacifiCorp's power plants. **Figure 4-1** shows the locations of these areas, the extent of the 4-km modeling domain, and the location of the power plants:

1. Grand Canyon National Park (NP)
2. Arches NP
3. Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP
4. Bryce Canyon NP
5. Canyonlands NP
6. Capitol Reef NP
7. Mesa Verde NP
8. Zion NP
9. Flat Tops Wilderness Area (WA)
10. Mount Zirkel WA
11. Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA
12. West Elk WA
13. La Garita WA
14. Weminuche WA
15. San Pedro Parks WA

Future visibility conditions at the Class I areas listed above are estimated for all three future-year modeling scenarios. To convert model concentrations into visibility conditions and account for quantifiable model bias, the most recent version (v1.2) of USEPA's Software for Model Attainment Test – Community Edition (SMAT-CE) (USEPA 2015b) is used. More information about the SMAT-CE tool, its purpose, and how it is configured for this analysis is provided in the section below. Once visibility estimates are calculated using SMAT-CE for each model scenario, the process is repeated modifying the inputs to isolate PacifiCorp units' visibility impacts for each model scenario. As a final step, results from the Utah SIP scenario are compared to the Baseline and USEPA FIP scenarios to determine which has the least impact on visibility.

Figure 4-1: Class I Areas in the 4-km CAMx Domain



The following steps were performed to generate visibility impacts estimates:<sup>2</sup>

1. Apply SMAT-CE. Repeat this process three times, once for each of the three modeling scenarios relative to the Typical Year. This step provides the „cumulative“ visibility conditions from all the regional sources, including PacifiCorp’s power plants, for each model scenario.
2. Subtract PacifiCorp’s power plants concentrations estimated with PSAT from the cumulative air quality concentrations. Repeat this process three times, once for each of the three modeling scenarios and the associated PacifiCorp’s power plants contributions to those scenarios. This step provides estimates of cumulative air quality concentrations, excluding PacifiCorp’s power plants, for each of the three modeling scenarios.
3. Apply SMAT-CE using the regional concentrations derived in Step 2 which exclude PacifiCorp’s power plants contributions. Repeat this process three times, once for each of the three modeling scenarios. This step provides the „cumulative“ visibility conditions from all regional sources, excluding PacifiCorp’s power plants, for each modeling scenario.
4. Subtract the cumulative visibility estimates without PacifiCorp’s power plants (derived in Step 3) from the cumulative visibility estimates with PacifiCorp’s power plants (derived in Step 1). Repeat this process three times, once for each of the three modeling scenarios. This step provides estimates of PacifiCorp’s power plants contributions to visibility impacts for each modeling scenario.
5. Subtract the results of Step 4 for the Baseline scenario from Utah SIP scenario. This step provides the predicted visibility benefits from the Utah SIP scenario relative to the Baseline.
6. Subtract the results of Step 4 for the USEPA FIP scenario from the Utah SIP scenario. This step provides the predicted visibility benefits from the Utah SIP scenario relative to USEPA FIP.

Results from the steps above are evaluated in a similar manner to the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) (USEPA 2011) and the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR) (USEPA 2005a). The visibility improvements from two emissions strategies can be compared using a “better-than-USEPA FIP” assessment that consists of a two-pronged test. Under the first prong, visibility must not decline at any Class I area for the Utah SIP scenario when compared to baseline visibility conditions (i.e., the Baseline scenario). This prong is satisfied if the difference between the Utah SIP scenario and the Baseline scenario is negative or zero at each Class I area. Under the second prong, the average visibility over all Class I areas must be better under the Utah SIP scenario than under the USEPA FIP scenario. For the second prong, the average visibility improvement over all affected Class I areas must be negative or zero. It is acceptable if some Class I areas show greater improvement under the USEPA FIP scenario, if the average improvement is larger under the Utah SIP scenario. The objective of these tests is to evaluate the visibility impacts under the Utah SIP scenario and determine if the predicted visibility will be better than the USEPA FIP.

#### **4.2. The SMAT-CE Tool, Visibility Calculation Method, and SMAT-CE Configuration Options**

For this analysis, visibility impacts are assessed using SMAT-CE version 1.2 (USEPA 2015b). SMAT-CE provides model-adjusted impacts that are consistent with USEPA’s “Guidance on the Use of Models and Other Analyses for Demonstrating Attainment of the Air Quality Goals for Ozone, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and Regional Haze” (USEPA 2014b). All models are affected by biases, i.e. model results are a simplification of natural

<sup>2</sup> Steps 1 through 4 are necessary to isolate PacifiCorp’s power plant visibility contribution because SMAT-CE requires cumulative air quality concentrations, rather than single source concentrations from PSAT.

phenomena and, as such, model results tend to over- or under-estimate true impacts. The use of SMAT-CE aids in mitigating model bias by pairing model estimates with actual measured conditions.

SMAT-CE calculates baseline and future-year visibility levels for both the 20 percent best and 20 percent worst days for each Class I Area. To do this, SMAT-CE adjusts the modeled air quality concentrations based on measured air quality concentrations to account for possible model bias utilizing the relative response factor approach described below. Within SMAT-CE, model-predicted concentrations of chemical compounds that scatter or absorb light are converted to estimates of light extinction using the IMPROVE equation (Hand and Malm 2006). The IMPROVE equation reflects empirical relationships derived between measured mass of PM components and measurements of light extinction at IMPROVE monitoring sites in Class I areas. The IMPROVE equation calculates light extinction as a function of relative humidity for large and small particulate matter. As a final step in SMAT-CE, light extinction values are converted into deciviews (dv), a measure for describing the ability for the human eye to perceive changes in visibility.

The USEPA guidance for estimating future-year visibility levels recommends using the photochemical grid model results in a relative sense to scale the visibility current design values (DVC). The visibility DVCs are based on a 5-year average of monitored IMPROVE data centered on the typical modeling year. For this analysis, the Typical Year is 2011, so the 5-year period centered on 2011 is 2009 through 2013.

Scaling factors, called relative response factors (RRFs), are calculated from the modeling results. RRFs are applied to the DVC to predict future-year design values (DVF) at a given monitoring location using the following equation:

$$DVF = DVC \times RRF$$

RRFs are the ratio between the model-predicted concentrations in the future-year modeling scenario and the Typical Year modeling scenario. RRFs are calculated for each individual chemical component that contributes to light extinction based on the model grid cells surrounding a monitoring site.

SMAT-CE depends on IMPROVE monitors to assess visibility impacts. Notice that of the Class I areas selected for analysis, the following do not have an IMPROVE monitor within their boundaries:

- Arches NP
- Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP
- La Garita WA
- Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA
- West Elk WA
- Flat Tops WA

However, SMAT-CE can estimate visibility impacts at areas without a monitor by assigning a representative IMPROVE monitor following the **Appendix A, Table A-2** of "Guidance for tracking Progress Under the Regional Haze Rule"<sup>3</sup>. Representative monitors are generally close to the Class I area.

SMAT-CE was configured using the settings provided in **Table 4-1** and was run with the modeling results for each of the future-year 2025 modeling scenarios. Cells highlighted in **Table 4-1** represent the values recommended for this study that are different from SMAT-CE defaults. Highlighted changes are necessary

<sup>3</sup>"Guidance for Tracking Progress Under the Regional Haze Rule"  
[http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarp/t1/memoranda/th\\_tpurhr\\_gd.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarp/t1/memoranda/th_tpurhr_gd.pdf)

to accurately incorporate the model year selected for the Typical Year and other data that is dependent on the Typical Year.

**Table 4-1: SMAT-CE Configuration Settings**

Option	Main category	Setting	Default	This Study
Desired Output	Scenario Name	Name		
	Forecast	Temporally-adjust visibility levels at class 1 area	Yes	Yes
		Improve algorithm	use new version	use new version
		Use model grid cells at monitors	Yes	Yes
	Use model grid cells at class 1 area centroid	No	No	
Actions on run completion	Automatically extract all selected output files	Yes	Yes	
Data Input	Monitor data	File name	Classlareas_NEWIMPROVEALG_2000to2015_2017feb13_TOTAL.csv	Classlareas_NEWIMPROVEALG_2000to2015_2017april27_TOTAL.csv
	Model data	Baseline file	SMAT.PM.Large.12.SE_US2.2011eh.cmx.grid.csv	Typical Year 2011 4-km model results <sup>1</sup>
		Forecast file	SMAT.PM.Large.12.SE_US2.2017eh.cmx.grid.csv	Future-year 2025 4-km model results <sup>2</sup>
	Using model data	Temporal adjustment at monitor	3x3	3x3
Filtering	Choose visibility data years	Start monitor year	2009	2009 <sup>3</sup>
		End monitor year	2013	2013 <sup>3</sup>
		Base model year	2011	2011 <sup>3</sup>
	Valid visibility monitors	Minimum years required for valid monitor	3	3

<sup>1</sup> Baseline file changed from default (2011) to the Typical Year (2011) modeling results.

<sup>2</sup> Forecast file changed from default (2020) to the modeling results of the future-year (2025) scenarios for this analysis. SMAT-CE was run three times changing this setting as there are three modeling scenarios: USEPA FIP, PacifiCorp and Baseline.

<sup>3</sup> The values for the Start, End and Base model years are set to reflect a base year centered on the Typical Year (2011) and to perform the current design value calculation with the 5-year period surrounding this year (2009 to 2013).

### 4.3. Assessment Results

**Tables 4-2 and 4-3** show the projected contribution to visibility on the 20 percent best days and worst days due to PacifiCorp’s power plants in Utah. Both tables present the estimates for the Baseline (Column A), USEPA FIP (Column B) and Utah SIP (Column C) scenarios at each of the 15 Class I areas. The last two columns show the predicted visibility benefits from Utah SIP scenario relative to both the Baseline (Column D) and the FIP (Column E). Also shown at the bottom row are the average visibility values from all the areas. Negative values in Column D indicate that the Utah SIP scenario has smaller contributions to visibility relative to the baseline and therefore it improves visibility over the baseline. Similarly, negative values in Column E indicate that the Utah SIP scenario improves visibility relative to the USEPA FIP.

**Table 4-2: Visibility Impacts for the 2025 Baseline, USEPA FIP and Utah SIP Scenarios on the 20 Percent Best Days**

Class I area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] USEPA FIP (dv)	[C] Utah SIP (dv)	[D] Utah SIP - Baseline	[E] Utah SIP - USEPA FIP
Arches NP	0.10300	0.05607	0.03851	-0.06449	-0.01756
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
Bryce Canyon NP	0.00528	0.00254	0.00228	-0.00300	-0.00026
Canyonlands NP	0.10300	0.05607	0.03851	-0.06449	-0.01756
Capitol Reef NP	0.14218	0.07222	0.07140	-0.07078	-0.00082
Flat Tops WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Grand Canyon NP	0.07136	0.03567	0.03611	-0.03525	0.00044
La Garita WA	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Mesa Verde NP	0.06356	0.03381	0.02749	-0.03607	-0.00632
Mount Zirkel WA	0.04209	0.02060	0.01471	-0.02738	-0.00589
San Pedro Parks WA	0.03627	0.01742	0.01593	-0.02034	-0.00149
Weminuche WA	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
West Elk WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Zion NP <sup>1</sup>	0.00612	0.00291	0.00300	-0.00312	0.00009
<b>All Class I Area Average</b>	<b>0.04940</b>	<b>0.02602</b>	<b>0.02108</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00494</b>

<sup>1</sup> Results based on incomplete dataset. Zion NP monitor did not meet the 75% data completion SMAT requirement for year 2011.

**Table 4-2** shows that the PacifiCorp’s emissions for the Utah SIP scenario will not result in degradation of visibility on the 20 percent best days compared to the Baseline conditions at any of the analyzed 15 Class I areas. In each individual area, visibility is predicted to improve compared to the Baseline visibility, since all the values shown in Column D are negative.

In general, the Utah SIP scenario shows an average improvement in visibility of 0.00494 dv relative to the USEPA FIP for the best 20 percent days. **Table 4-2** also shows that for the Utah SIP scenario, visibility during the best days improves at all Class I areas compared to the USEPA FIP except for Grand Canyon NP and Zion NP.

**Table 4-3** shows that PacifiCorp’s emissions will not result in degradation of visibility on the 20 percent worst days compared to the Baseline conditions at any of the analyzed 15 Class I areas. In each individual area, visibility is predicted to improve compared to the Baseline visibility, since all values in Column D are negative.

**Table 4-3** indicates that for the Utah SIP scenario, visibility during the 20 percent worst days improves at all Class I areas compared to the USEPA FIP scenario except at Bryce Canyon NP, Capitol Reef NP and Mesa Verde NP. An additional analysis that compares the modeled nitrate and sulfate concentrations at these three parks for both the Utah SIP and USEPA FIP scenarios is provided in **Appendix C**. This analysis in Appendix C shows that the impacts, particularly at Capitol Reef NP, are mostly due to high nitrate concentrations during a few days during the winter, while the benefits of reduced sulfate

concentrations occur over the entire period of the 20 percent worst days. The modeling results in **Table 4-3** indicate that the Utah SIP scenario passes the second-prong test since it shows an average improvement in visibility of 0.00058 dv relative to the USEPA FIP for the 20 percent worst days.

**Table 4-3: Visibility Impacts for the 2025 Baseline, USEPA FIP and Utah SIP Scenarios on the 20 Percent Worst Days**

Class I area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] USEPA FIP (dv)	[C] Utah SIP (dv)	[D] Utah SIP - Baseline	[E] Utah SIP - USEPA FIP
Arches NP	0.25740	0.13780	0.12584	-0.13156	-0.01196
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
Bryce Canyon NP	0.04945	0.02184	0.02470	-0.02475	0.00286
Canyonlands NP	0.25740	0.13780	0.12584	-0.13156	-0.01196
Capitol Reef NP	0.26010	0.11672	0.14568	-0.11442	0.02896
Flat Tops WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Grand Canyon NP	0.00186	0.00089	0.00056	-0.00130	-0.00033
La Garita WA	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Mesa Verde NP	0.06203	0.02524	0.02959	-0.03244	0.00435
Mount Zirkel WA	0.03312	0.01705	0.01198	-0.02114	-0.00507
San Pedro Parks WA	0.00154	0.00074	0.00073	-0.00081	-0.00001
Weminuche WA	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
West Elk WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Zion NP <sup>1</sup>	0.00155	0.00051	0.00051	-0.00104	0.00000
<b>All Class I Area Average</b>	<b>0.06957</b>	<b>0.03471</b>	<b>0.03413</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00058</b>

<sup>1</sup> Results based on incomplete dataset. Zion NP monitor did not meet the 75% data completion SMAT requirement for year 2011.

The results presented in this assessment focused on the five-year period 2009 to 2013 centered on year 2011 as indicated in **Table 4-1**. Visibility impacts obtained with SMAT-CE for two additional periods are detailed in **Appendix D**. As noted in this chapter the results for Zion NP are based on an incomplete monitoring dataset, and **Appendix D**, provides an assessment for Zion NP when the data is over 75% complete. The visibility assessment for the additional periods also indicate that for both the 20 percent and 20 percent worst the Utah SIP will lead to better visibility improvements over the USEPA FIP.

In summary, modeling results indicate that the Utah SIP scenario will not cause degradation of visibility relative to the Baseline at any of the analyzed Class I areas during either the 20 percent best or 20 percent worst visibility days. Furthermore, modeling results show that, on average, visibility improvement at the analyzed Class I areas is greater for the Utah SIP than for the USEPA FIP scenario during both the 20 percent best and worst visibility days.

## 5.0 Summary

The photochemical grid model Comprehensive Air Quality Model with Extensions (CAMx) was used to estimate and compare the potential visibility impacts at selected Class I areas for different emissions scenarios considered for PacifiCorp's Hunter, Huntington and Carbon power plants in Utah. The CAMx modeling system was used in this analysis because its technical formulation is considered state-of-the-science and accounts for complex processes such as the chemistry, transport and deposition of particulate pollutants responsible for regional haze.

This analysis uses the Western Air Quality Modeling Study (WAQS) modeling platform, which is a publicly available platform intended to facilitate air resource analyses in the western United States.

The CAMx system was configured using the WAQS configuration settings to simulate future-year 2025 visibility conditions for different modeling scenarios. The only differences among scenarios are the emission rates for PacifiCorp's power plants in Utah. The three modeling scenarios include:

- **Baseline Scenario.** This scenario simulates representative emissions from Carbon, Hunter and Huntington power plants during the period 2001 to 2003.
- **USEPA FIP Scenario.** This scenario simulates the emission control strategy for Hunter and Huntington units stipulated by the USEPA in the FIP. The Carbon power plant is modeled with the same level of emissions as the Baseline scenario.
- **Utah SIP Scenario.** This scenario simulates the emission control strategy from Utah's SIP, using representative emissions from Hunter and Huntington units during the period 2014 to 2016 when the SIP controls were installed. For the SIP scenario, the Carbon power plant emissions were zero since the power plant was decommissioned in April 2015, as required by the SIP.

Other than the emissions for the PacifiCorp power plants, all other model inputs, including other regional emissions sources, are identical for all future-year scenarios. Maintaining consistent model inputs enables comparison of the effects of different emissions scenarios. The Particulate Source Apportionment Technology (PSAT) tool was applied in the CAMx simulations to track and account for the particulate mass concentrations that originate from or are formed by PacifiCorp power plant emissions.

Once all the scenarios above were simulated with the PGM, model results were processed to isolate the changes to visibility conditions. To assess compliance with Regional Haze Rule requirements, visibility impacts were assessed for the 20 percent best visibility days and the 20 percent worst visibility days at each potentially affected, federally-regulated Class I area. Model-predicted visibility impacts at the fifteen Class I areas listed in Chapter 4 in the 4-km modeling domain were estimated for each of the three modeling scenarios.

To convert model concentrations into visibility estimates and account for quantifiable model bias, the USEPA's Software for Model Attainment Test – Community Edition (SMAT-CE) was used. Numerical models are often affected by biases, i.e. model results are a simplification of natural phenomena and, as such, model results over- or under-estimate true conditions. Using SMAT-CE in this assessment helped to mitigate model bias by pairing model estimates with actual measured conditions. Using PSAT two sets of model results were processed by SMAT-CE: the first was the total cumulative air quality concentrations, including PacifiCorp's units; the second is the total cumulative air quality concentrations excluding the target power plant. The difference between these two SMAT-CE runs was used to estimate the visibility impacts of PacifiCorp's power plants for each modeling scenario in a realistic manner.

As a final step, visibility impacts were compared between the Utah SIP, the Baseline and the USEPA FIP scenarios to determine which scenario has the least impacts on visibility. The model results (detailed in Chapter 4.0) indicate that the emissions modeled under the Utah SIP will not degrade visibility conditions relative to the Baseline scenario at any of the analyzed Class I areas during either the 20 percent best or 20 percent worst visibility days. The modeling results also show that, on average, visibility improvement at the analyzed Class I areas is greater under the Utah SIP than the USEPA FIP scenarios during both the 20 percent best and 20 percent worst visibility days.

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## Appendix A Analysis of Ammonia Concentrations along Computational Domain’s Lateral Boundaries

The visibility assessment of PacifiCorp’s power plants presented in this document relies on the 2011b WAQS modeling platform. The 2011b WAQS photochemical model performance evaluation indicates that for the State of Utah during the fall and winter particulate nitrate is systematically under-predicted relative to available observations. The WAQS MPE also indicates that CAMx systematically under-predicts ammonia concentrations throughout the year. In consultation with EPA Region 8 and the Utah Division of Air Quality (UDAQ), it was determined that to improve particulates and ammonia performance in Utah, ammonia concentrations in the model could be increased by reducing the deposition velocity of this species (setting the parameter RSCALE to 1 in the CAMx chemistry parameter input) and by allowing increased ammonia concentrations to enter the modeling through the northern boundary to reflect the elevated ammonia emissions in northern Utah. This appendix provides a detailed analysis of the ammonia concentrations along the northern boundary of the computational domain defined in Chapter 2. The analysis compares the modeling results for ammonia concentrations from:

- 1) The 2011 modeling performed in support of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) by the Utah Division of Air Quality (UDAQ); and
- 2) The 2011b modeling performed for the Western Air Quality Study (WAQS).

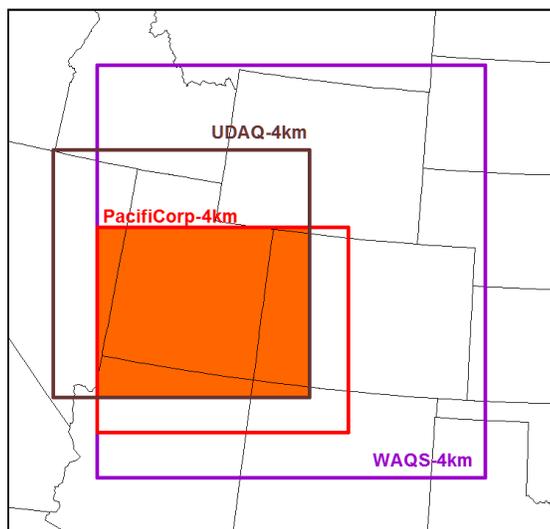
Table A-1 below identifies some of the differences relevant for this comparison.

**Table A-2: Relevant Differences between UDAQ and WAQS Modeling**

Category	UDAQ Modeling	WAQS Modeling
Period of simulation	January 1 - January 10	January 1 – December 31
Horizontal computational domain definition (4km grid)	Southwestern corner coordinate: (-1644km, -312km) Number of grid cells: 186x180	Southwestern corner coordinate: (-1516km, -544km) Number of grid cells: 281x299
Vertical Domain definition	41 vertical layers	25 vertical layers
Meteorology	Specific WRF simulation for the 10-day period performed by University of Utah (41 eta levels)	WRF simulation performed for the WAQS (37 eta levels)
Deposition Velocity	Modified to decrease ammonia deposition velocity (RSCALE = 1)	Default values for ammonia deposition velocity (RSCALE = 0)
Ammonia Surface Emissions	Modified to add additional emissions through ammonia injection for counties within Wasatch Front and Cache Valley	2011b WAQS ammonia emissions

**Figure A-1** below compares the extent of horizontal 4-km computational domains for the original WAQS, UDAQ and this study. Notice that UDAQ’s domain is not large enough to the east to encompass the entire northern boundary of this study’s domain. Furthermore, there are approximately 28 cells (112 kilometers) along the northern boundary of this study’s domain that are not part of UDAQ’s modeling domain and therefore it is not possible to compare the concentrations in this region. The ammonia concentrations are compared for only those grid cells that are on the edges of the area that includes both this study’s and UDAQ’s modeling domains, which are indicated by the orange rectangle in **Figure A-1**. Only the edges of the domain are compared since the emissions inputs are different for the two studies.

**Figure A-1: Comparison among 4-km Horizontal Computational Domains.**



While in the main body of this report, the air quality concentrations for only the surface layer were analyzed and reported consistent with similar analyses, the assessment of ammonia concentrations in this appendix compares modeled concentrations for various levels above the surface to have a more complete understanding of the ammonia concentration differences. As indicated in **Table A-1**, both modeling efforts used different WRF input data to drive the corresponding simulations. In addition to the differences on the meteorology, the definition of the vertical domains is different between the UDAQ's and WAQS simulations. This is an important difference that needs to be considered when comparing the concentrations along the northern boundaries. **Table A-2** provides the vertical layer interface definition for both WRF simulations and the vertical layers used in both CAMx simulations. Notice that the WAQS CAMx modeling used an approach that collapses multiple WRF layers into one layer. The table also provides the approximate height above surface in meters for the WAQS CAMx layers. We have confirmed that the base pressure at the top (1000 mbar) and at the bottom (50 mbar) of both WRF simulations are the same. Therefore, the rows and layers that have the same sigma values identically match between both modeling simulations. **Table A-2** illustrates the difficulties in matching the UDAQ's vertical structure to the WAQS. There are multiple ranges of vertical layers that would require further post-processing and averaging to make a one-to-one comparison of the ammonia concentrations. For efficiency in this analysis, the ammonia concentrations for every layer in each modeling simulation are plotted using **Table A-2** to visually guide the layer ranges that would be of comparable thickness.

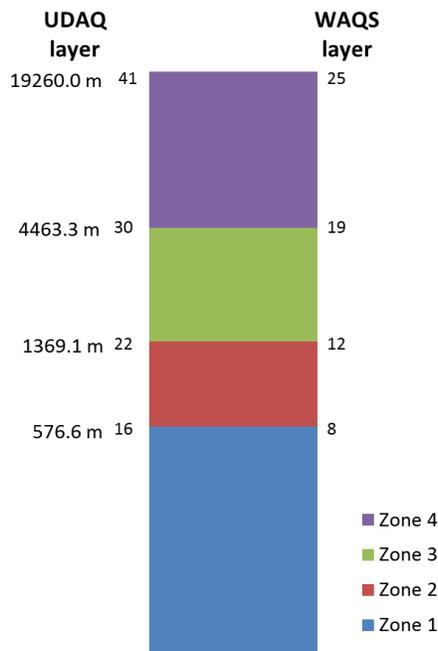
**Table A-2: Vertical Layer Interface Definition for UDAQ and WAQS WRF Simulations and Corresponding CAMx Layers.**

UDAQ		WAQS		
WRF sigma	CAMx Layer	WRF sigma	CAMx Layer	Approximate Height (m)
0.0000	41	0.0000	25	19260.0
		0.0270		
		0.0600	24	15355.1
0.0500	40			
0.1000	39	0.1000		
0.1500	38	0.1500	23	11929.7
0.2000	37	0.2000		
0.2500	36	0.2500	22	9360.1
0.3000	35	0.3000		
0.3500	34	0.3500	21	7407.9
0.4000	33	0.4000		
0.4500	32	0.4500	20	5816.1
0.5000	31	0.5000		
0.5500	30	0.5500	19	4463.3
0.6000	29	0.6000	18	3854.1
		0.6400	17	3393.4
0.6500	28			
		0.6800	16	2953.7
0.7000	27			
		0.7200	15	2533.1
0.7400	26			
		0.7600	14	2129.7
0.7700	25			
0.8000	24	0.8000	13	1742.2
0.8200	23			
0.8400	22	0.8400	12	1369.1
0.8600	21			
		0.8700	11	1098.0
0.8800	20			
		0.8900	10	921.2
0.9000	19			
0.9100	18	0.9100	9	747.5
0.9200	17			
0.9300	16	0.9300	8	576.6
0.9400	15	0.9400		
0.9500	14	0.9500	7	408.6
0.9550	13			
0.9600	12	0.9600	6	325.6
0.9650	11			
0.9700	10	0.9700	5	243.2
0.9750	9			
0.9800	8	0.9800	4	161.5
0.9825	7			
0.9850	6	0.9850		
0.9875	5			
		0.9880	3	96.6
		0.9910		
0.9900	4			
		0.9930	2	56.2
0.9929	3			
0.9950	2	0.9950		
		0.9970	1	24.1
0.9976	1			
		0.9985		
1.0000		1.0000		0.0

Table A-2 shows selected rows highlighted in orange that correspond to identical sigma layers between both modeling simulations. A graphic representation of the range of CAMx layers in UDAQ's modeling that are

comparable to the WAQS's is shown in **Figure A-2**. Subsequently, in this document we refer to each specific layer's range as zone 1 to zone 4, with zone 1 (blue in **Figure A-2**) directly above the surface followed by zone 2, zone 3 and zone 4 representing the very top layers of the model. **Figure A-2** provides a visual aid reference for the vertical concentrations comparisons in the next sections.

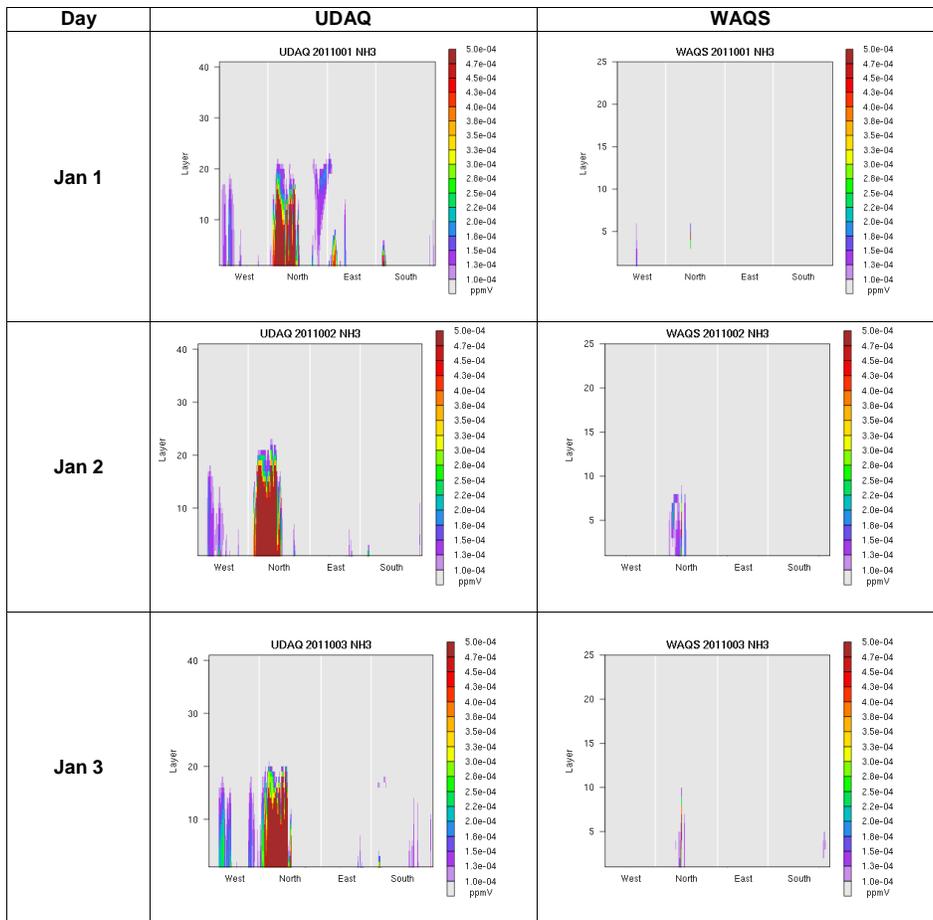
**Figure A-2: Equivalent CAMx Layer Ranges between UDAQ and WAQS**

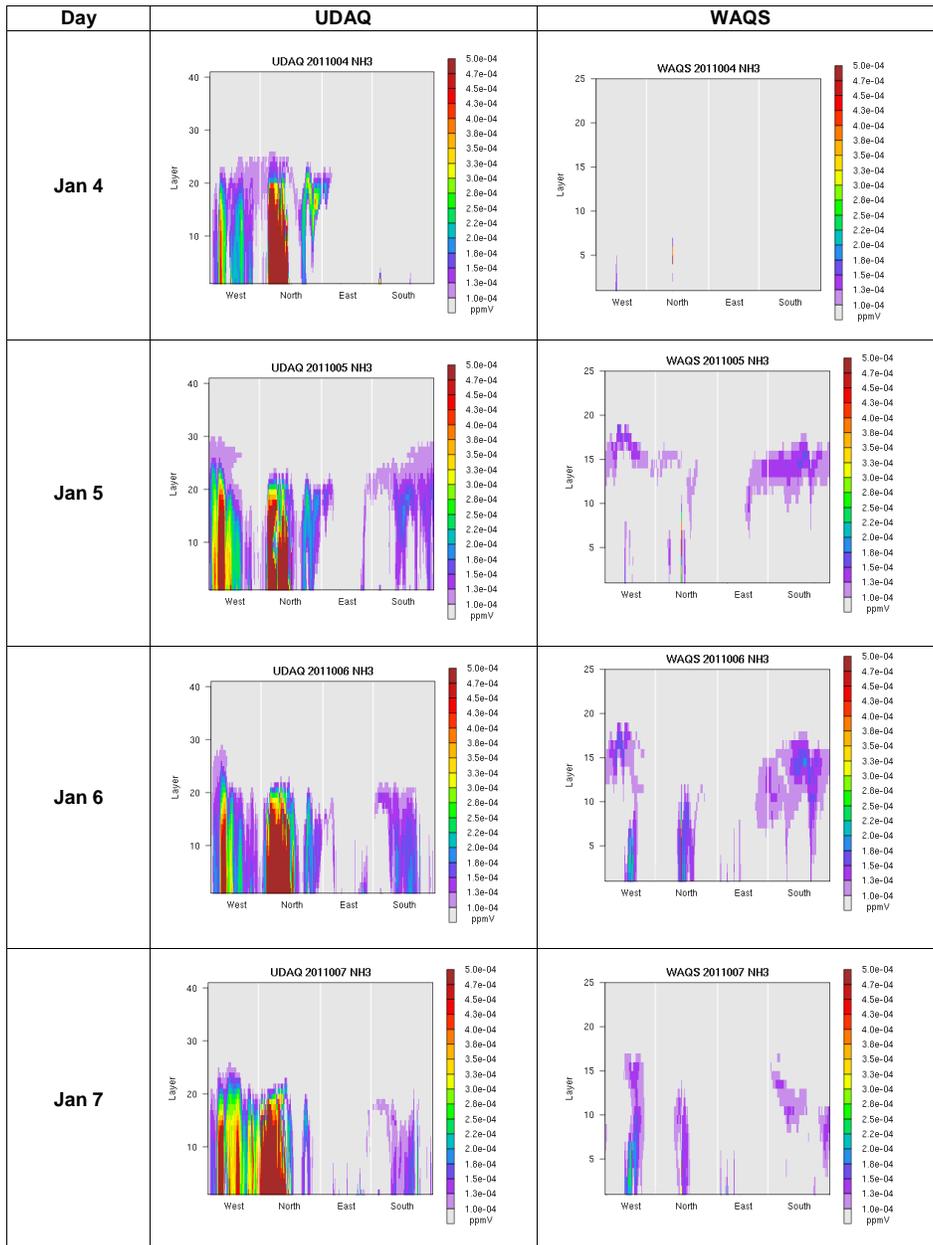


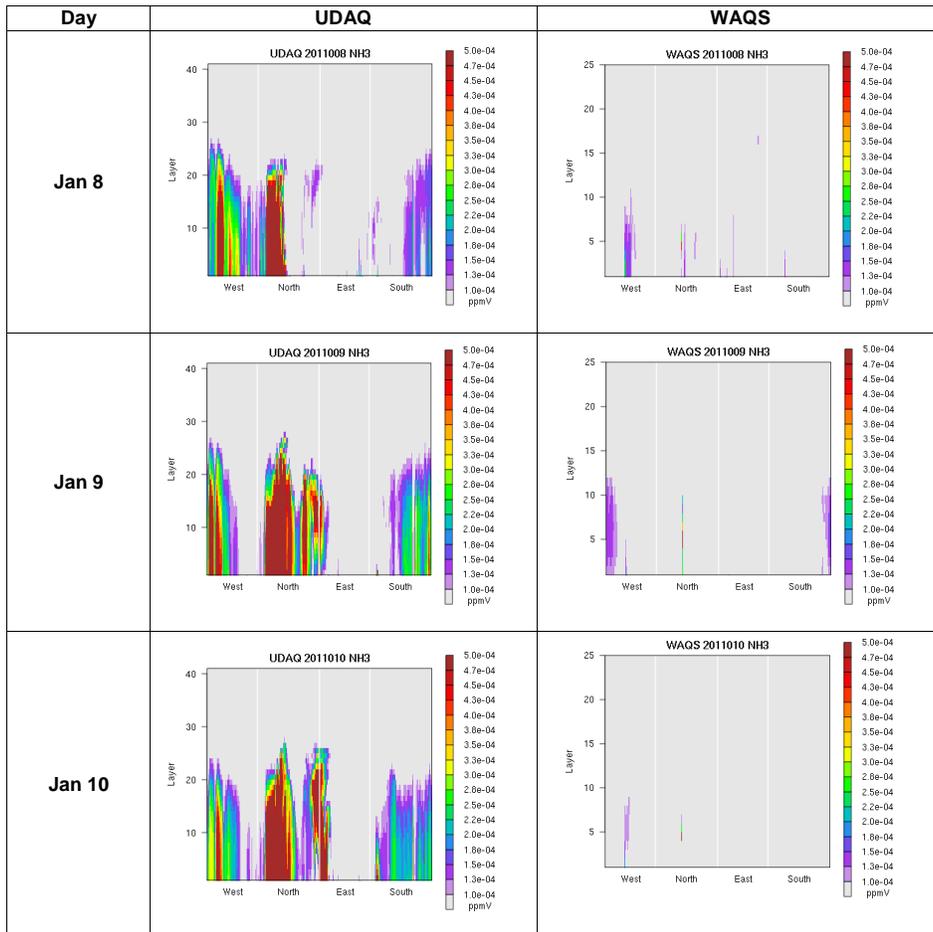
Graphical Comparison of Ammonia Concentrations along the Northern Boundary

The modeling output for both UDAQ's and WAQS simulations was post-processed to compare the ammonia concentrations along the edges of the domain indicated in orange in **Figure A-1**. As a first step, daily average concentrations were produced for each of the 10 available days in January along all the boundaries as shown in **Figure A-3**. Ammonia concentrations along the northern boundary exhibit a spatial gradient with the largest values, generally, closer to the surface. The comparison between UDAQ's and WAQS modeling results illustrate that UDAQ's ammonia concentrations are consistently higher than those estimated from the WAQS for every single day.

**Figure A-3: Comparison of Daily Average Ammonia Concentrations along the all the Boundaries between UDAQ and WAQS**

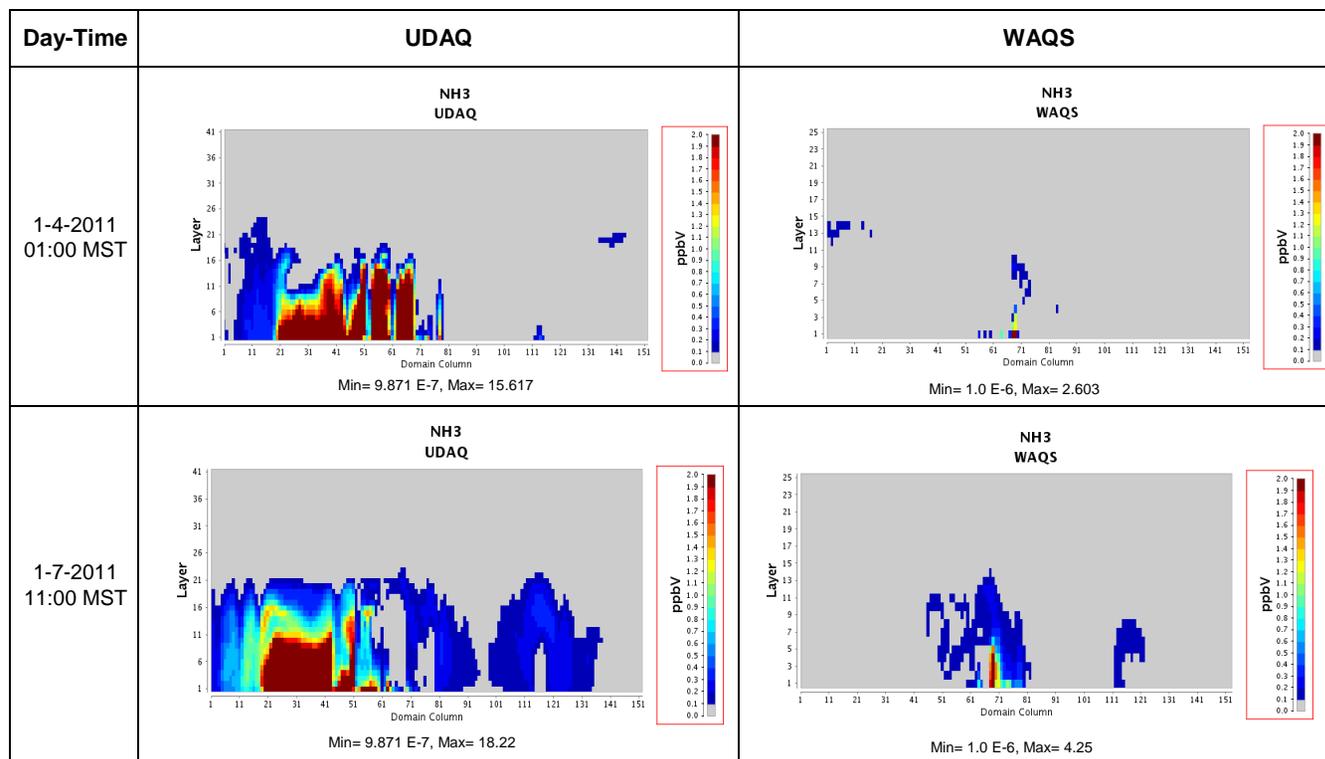


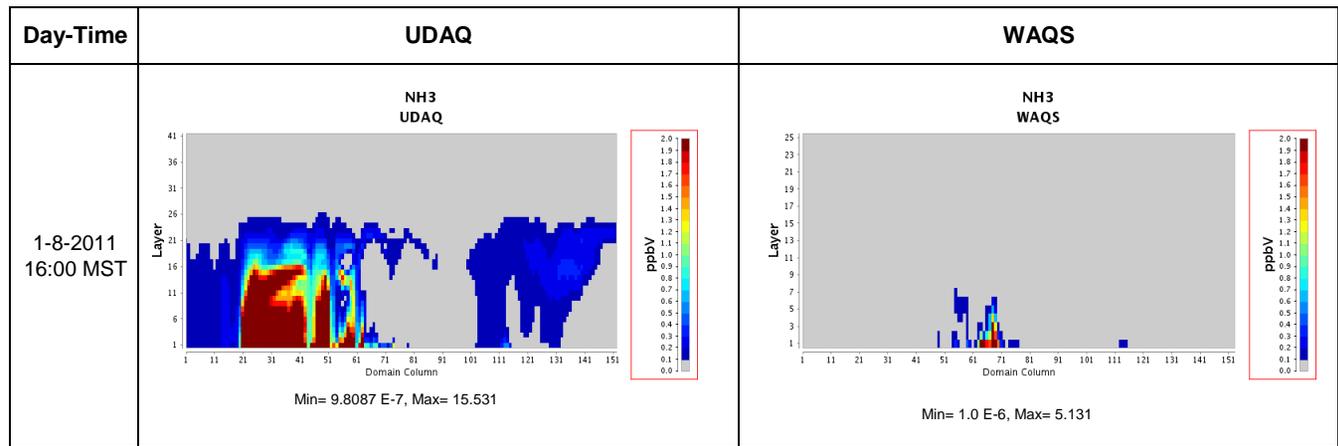




Based on this comparison and further evaluation of UDAQ's modeling data, the ammonia concentrations were plotted for the hours with the largest values, as shown in **Figure A-4**. The figure also shows the corresponding concentrations for the WAQS modeling. **Figure A-4** indicates that the UDAQ's modeling data has systematically higher concentrations and appears to have a larger spatial extent than the WAQS for the concentrations that extend from the surface up to about 1360 m, which encompasses Zones 1 and 2.

Figure A-4: Comparison of Selected Hourly Average Ammonia Concentrations along the Northern Boundary between UDAQ and WAQS





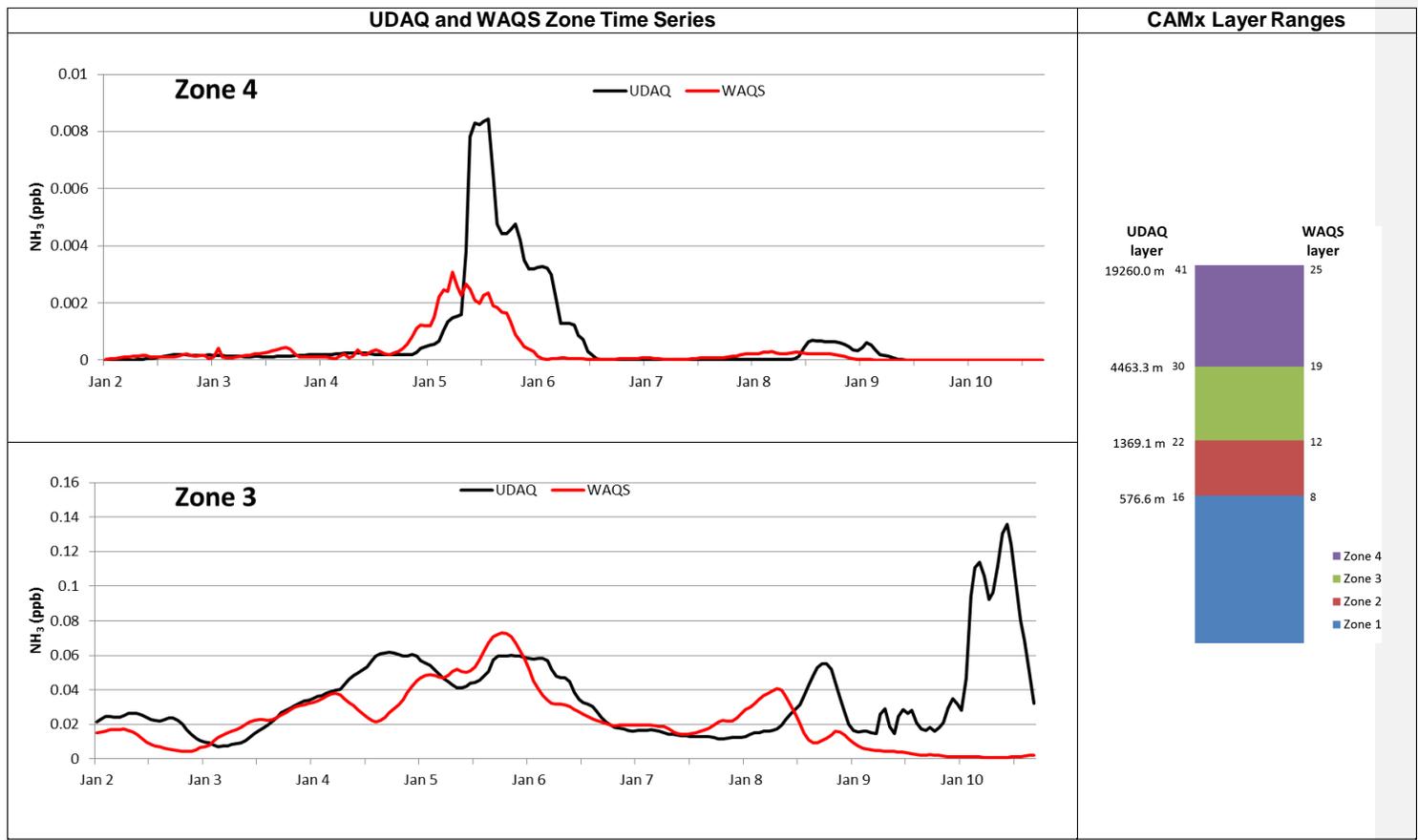
Zonal Mean Time Series along the Northern Boundary

Figures A-3 and A-4 confirm that UDAQ's ammonia concentrations along the northern boundary are significantly higher than those predicted by the WAQS. To quantify how much larger UDAQ's concentrations are relative to the WAQS's, hourly time series comparisons of the zonal means are presented in Figure A-5. The zonal means are calculated by averaging all the ammonia concentrations within the CAMx zones specified in Figure A-2. Notice the scale for the concentrations on each zone is different, which is consistent with the spatial distribution of ammonia. The largest concentrations occur in zones 1 and 2, closer to the surface, while the smallest concentrations occur at higher altitudes closer to the top of the modeling domain in zones 3 and 4. As ammonia concentrations dilute into the top of the atmosphere, the differences between UDAQ and WAQS become smaller. However, for the largest concentrations in zone 1 and 2, UDAQ's model concentrations are systematically higher than the WAQS concentrations. Given that both simulations are driven by different meteorological inputs, it is expected that the temporal correlations would be low, in general, which is illustrated in most of the zonal mean comparisons. Table A-3 shows a comparison of both UDAQ's and WAQS daily average concentrations for each zone. The values for zone 1 indicate that UDAQ's concentrations are systematically larger than those predicted by the WAQS and on specific days, such as January 9 and 10, the UDAQ's model concentrations are more than a factor of 10 larger than the WAQS's concentrations.

**Table A-3: Daily Average Zonal Mean Concentrations for Ten Day Period**

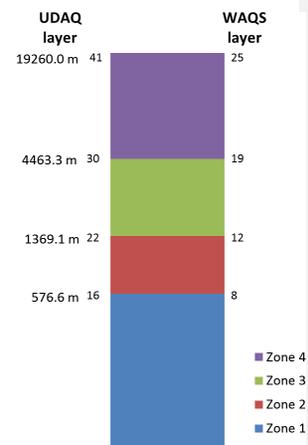
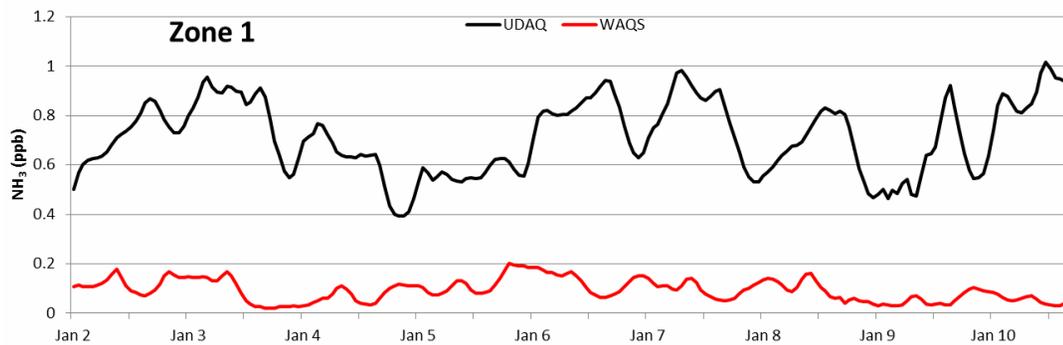
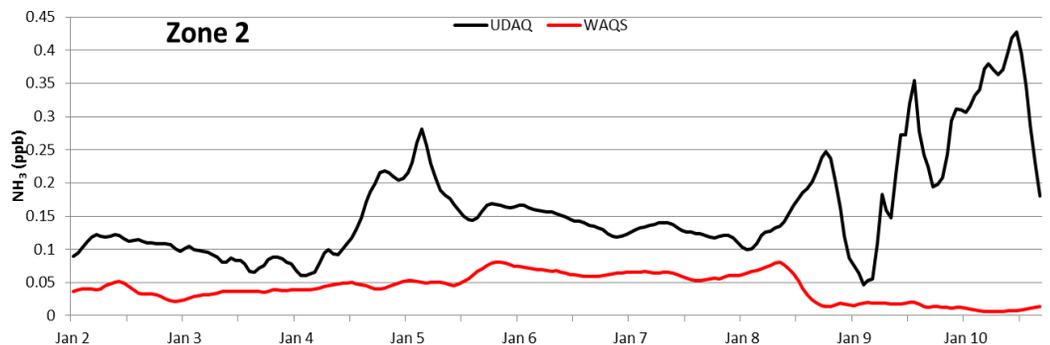
Day	Zone 1 (ppb)		Zone 2 (ppb)		Zone 3 (ppb)		Zone 4 (ppb)	
	UDAQ	WAQS	UDAQ	WAQS	UDAQ	WAQS	UDAQ	WAQS
January 1	0.456	0.084	0.077	0.018	0.011	0.011	0.0000	0.0000
January 2	0.716	0.120	0.111	0.037	0.022	0.011	0.0001	0.0001
January 3	0.813	0.083	0.086	0.035	0.018	0.021	0.0001	0.0002
January 4	0.601	0.073	0.134	0.044	0.051	0.032	0.0002	0.0004
January 5	0.569	0.122	0.186	0.061	0.051	0.057	0.0041	0.0018
January 6	0.808	0.129	0.144	0.065	0.036	0.028	0.0009	0.0001
January 7	0.796	0.097	0.127	0.061	0.014	0.019	0.0000	0.0001
January 8	0.680	0.094	0.158	0.047	0.030	0.024	0.0003	0.0002
January 9	0.609	0.055	0.201	0.016	0.022	0.004	0.0001	0.0000
January 10	0.889	0.054	0.343	0.009	0.090	0.001	0.0000	0.0000

Figure A-5: Zonal Mean Hourly Average time series comparisons between UDAQ and WAQS



UDAQ and WAQS Zone Time Series

CAMx Layer Ranges



Scaling WAQS Ammonia Concentrations

This section describes the approach to leverage the UDAQ’s model ammonia concentrations to establish ammonia northern boundary concentrations for the visibility assessment of Utah’s Power plants. **Table A-4** shows the sum of all the hourly values for the zonal mean for both UDAQ and WAQS. The table also shows the ratios between these values, which is a measure of how much larger on average are UDAQ concentrations compared to WAQS over the ten-day period examined. The values indicate that for all the zones UDAQ has higher concentrations than the WAQS. In Zone 1 and 2, the UDAQ’s values are approximately a factor of seven and four times higher, respectively, than the WAQS.

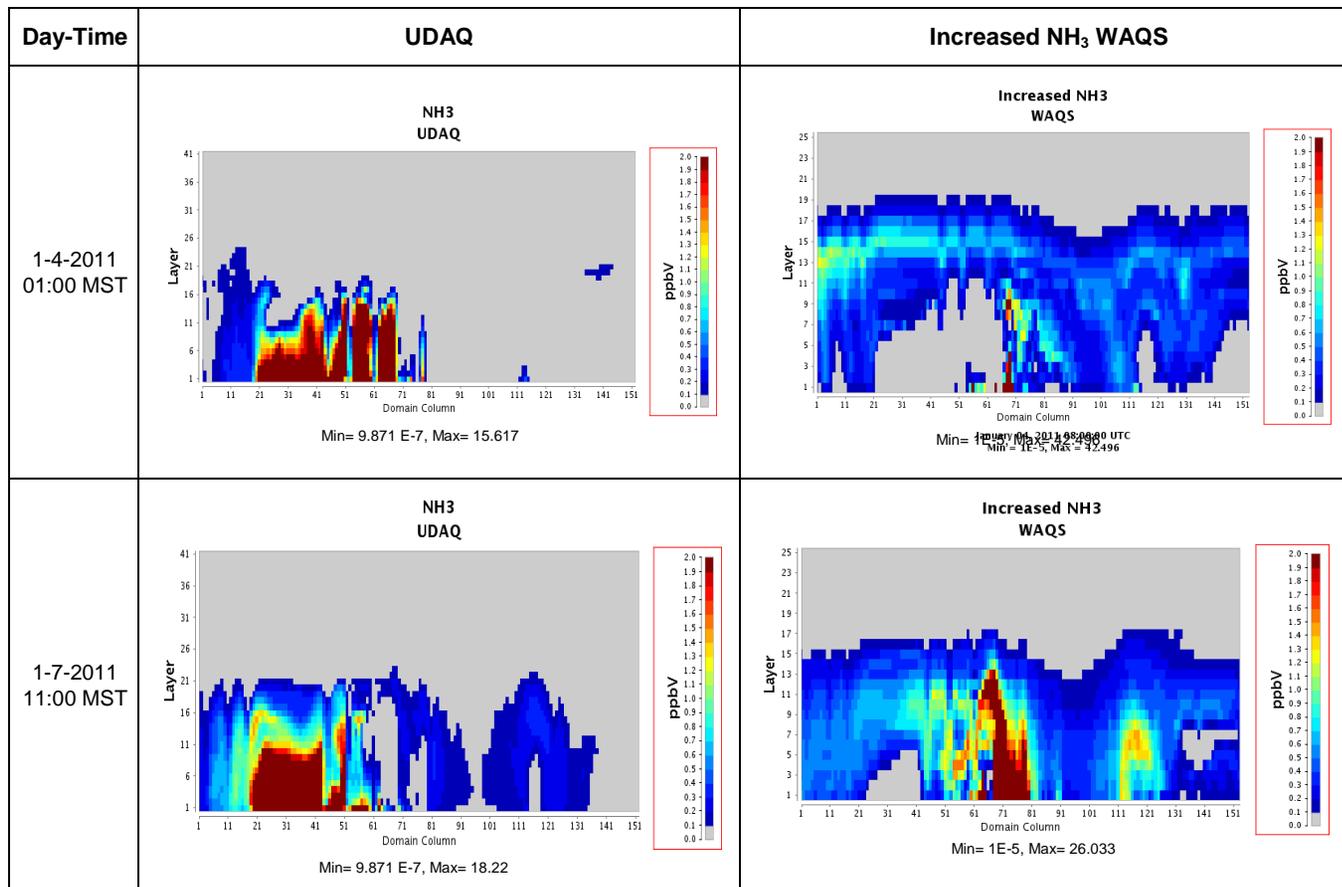
**Table A-4: Sum Total of Zonal Mean Concentrations**

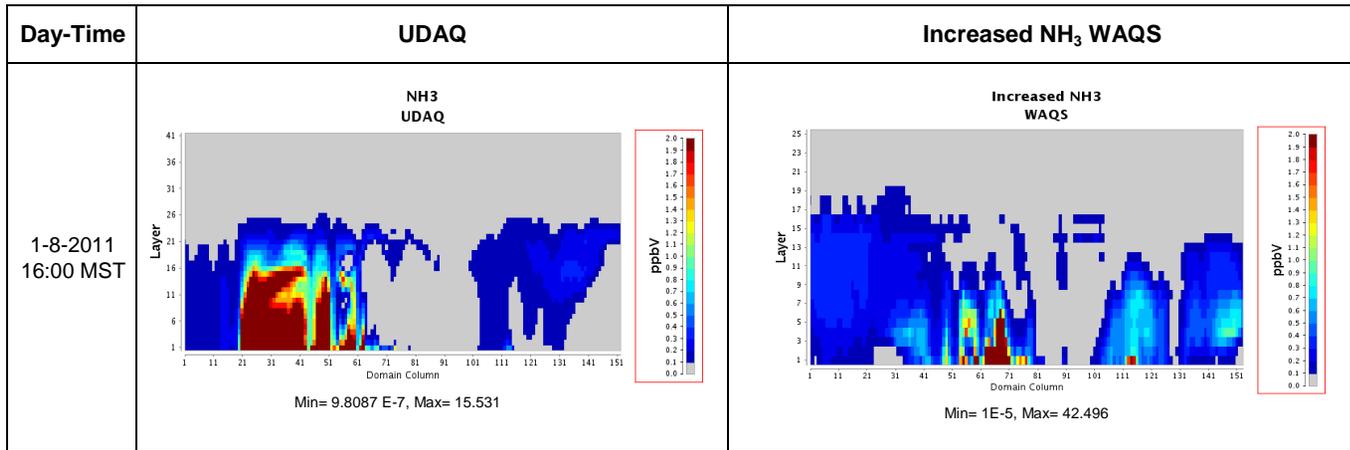
Category	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4
UDAQ Total (ppb)	157.08	34.63	7.57	0.14
WAQS Total (ppb)	20.91	9.23	4.91	0.07
<b>UDAQ/WAQS Ratio</b>	<b>7.51</b>	<b>3.75</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>2.07</b>

The ratio values in the last row of **Table A-4** for zone 1 and the values for specific days in **Table A-3** could be used to derive a scaling factor that, when multiplied to the original WAQS concentrations, will result in comparable or equivalent ammonia concentrations to those estimated by UDAQ. **Figure A-6** shows the same results presented in **Figure A-4** with the difference that the WAQS concentrations have been increased across the entire 25 vertical layers by a factor of ten. The scaling factor of ten might be too large, but it was chosen as a „conservative“ correction. Furthermore, if this factor was not sufficient to make the WAQS’ concentrations similar to UDAQ’s ammonia concentrations, then this approach would not be sufficient to adjust the northern boundary concentrations. **Figure A-6** illustrates that the correction does indeed make the WAQS concentrations comparable in magnitude to UDAQ’s; however, the spatial distributions are not similar. This should be expected given that both modeling platforms rely on different meteorology, emissions and ammonia deposition velocity configurations. However, the approach presented in this section to adjust the northern boundary concentrations has three important advantages:

- 1) It provides a correction to the original WAQS concentrations that by total mass would be comparable to UDAQ’s. The spatial distribution will not be the same, but using WAQS concentrations is the most consistent approach in space and time (no discrepancies) for this project;
- 2) It provides increased ammonia through the boundaries for the entire winter season and not just a limited amount of time; and
- 3) It is a practical approach that is simple to implement and check for errors. Manipulation of UDAQ’s data to collapse layers that approximate the WAQS CAMx layers is labor intensive and more susceptible to the introduction of errors.

Figure A-6: Comparison of Selected Hourly Average Ammonia Concentrations along the Northern Boundary between UDAQ and Increased NH<sub>3</sub> WAQS





## Conclusions

In summary, this analysis shows that:

- Ammonia concentrations along the northern boundary of the 4-km computational domain differ between UDAQ's and WAQS modeling because:
  - The photochemical modeling is driven by different WRF simulations;
  - The UDAQ's surface ammonia emissions are larger than WAQS because UDAQ's provides additional ammonia along the Wasatch Range and Cache Valley,
  - They both have different vertical layer definitions,
  - The UDAQ's horizontal domain definition does cover the entire northern boundary of the 4km domain,
  - UDAQ provides data only for the first ten days in January, and
  - Both models were setup to estimate different ammonia deposition velocities.
- Graphical comparison of ammonia concentrations along the northern boundary between UDAQ's and WAQS simulations indicate that UDAQ's ammonia estimates are systematically higher.
- On average during the first ten days in January, a comparison of the total zonal means indicates that close to the surface (zone 1) UDAQ's ammonia could be seven times larger than WAQS estimates.

## Recommendations related to Boundary Conditions

This analysis shows that using UDAQ's concentrations to define the boundary conditions along the northern boundary of the domain will result in higher ammonia concentrations relative to the original WAQS values. However, there are complications that make this approach unpractical.

1. It would be difficult to post-process the UDAQ's modeling concentrations to match the vertical layer definition for the WAQS. A significant amount of averaging will be required to achieve this objective and currently, there are no readily available tools to perform this step.
2. UDAQ's domain does not encompass the entire northern boundary, which implies that the resulting boundary conditions would have discrepancies. Additional guidance would be needed to fill the missing values along the boundaries.
3. UDAQ's data is limited to only ten days. The corrections to improve the model performance for the current modeling would need to be expanded to include at minimum, all the winter season (three months). Again, additional guidance would be needed to determine the boundary concentrations for the remaining days not included in UDAQ's modeling data.

An alternative to using UDAQ's concentrations was used in the main body of this study. The approach uses a scaling value that adjusts the current WAQS boundary concentrations to the same order of magnitude to UDAQ's modeling results. This eliminates the need to account for the spatial discrepancies due to differences of vertical and horizontal domain definitions between UDAQ and WAQS. The scaling factor value used for the WAQS is consistent along all vertical layers, resulting in similar magnitudes of ammonia concentrations to those in UDAQ. Additionally, the scaling factor can be applied for more than just ten days to encompass the entire winter season. **Figure A-6** presents a „proof of concept“ on how this alternative approach corrects the WAQS's original concentrations. Since the most defensible information available at

this point to determine the scaling factor is presented in **Table A-4**, a single scaling factor of 7.51 was used to correct all the WAQS" modeling concentrations along the northern boundary of the computational domain for this project.

## Appendix B Model Performance Evaluation for Revised CAMx Modeling with Ammonia Adjustments

### B.1 Introduction

This appendix provides a characterization of the performance of the modeling platform used in this assessment when changes to the boundary concentrations and the ammonia deposition velocity described in **Appendix A** are made relative to the original 2011b Western Air Quality Study (WAQS) platform. The following sections provide the air quality Model Performance Evaluation (MPE) for the simulation performed using the 4-km domain once the ammonia modifications were performed. Additionally, MPE results are compared to the 2011b WAQS modeling to understand if the changes improve the performance of model-predicted particulates.

The MPE presented in this report is based on the comparison of the modeling results to the monitored concentrations of multiple pollutants for the year 2011. Model performance was assessed for selected ambient air particle-phase pollutants to provide a broader understanding of the model's performance. Altogether this information is used to provide an assessment of the model performance, magnitude of the errors and biases, and associated limitations for the assessment of future-year air impacts. This „targeted“ MPE is performed with the 2011b Base Case input data to model only the winter season (defined here as the months of January, February, and December) with the 4-km computational domain. The MPE focuses only on the changes in particulate nitrate and sulfate at Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE) sites that fall within the state of UT. Focusing only on the performance of particulate nitrate and sulfate is the most relevant aspect since these species have a direct effect on the visibility predictions derived from the model. Additionally, the MPE of particulate ammonium at IMPROVE sites and ammonia at the Ammonia Monitoring Network (AMoN) sites are included in the analysis.

### B.2 Model Configuration

In addition to emissions and meteorological fields, CAMx requires additional input files to perform the MPE simulation. Some of these inputs define the chemical mechanism, set the photolysis rates, describe surface characteristics, and set initial conditions (IC) and boundary conditions (BC) for the entire modeling domain. **Table B-1** summarizes relevant CAMx configurations that are used for this modeling using the computational domain defined in the modeling protocol (AECOM 2018). As part of the MPE, the modeling results (referred herein as PacifiCorp modeling results) are compared with MPE values estimated for the original 2011b WAQS Base case.

The shaded gray cells in **Table B-1** indicate the settings that are different in the current modeling relative to the original WAQS. Consistent with the modeling protocol, the ammonia deposition velocity rates have been reduced for this study. This is achieved by setting the RSCALE parameter to the value of 1 in the CAMx chemistry parameter file. Also, for the northern edge of the computational domain (northern boundary), ammonia concentrations have been adjusted to increase the original concentrations (derived from the WAQS) with a multiplicative factor of 7.5. This factor is applied for all hours and for all vertical levels of the ammonia along the northern boundary.

UDAQ's concentrations along the northern and western boundary strongly suggest that adjusting the ammonia deposition velocity is probably of far more importance than changing the boundary concentrations because this change will have an effect over the entire domain and not only along its

edges. Reducing the ammonia deposition will likely increase available ammonia in the model and will influence the formation of nitrate and sulfate over the entire domain. The modification of the ammonia deposition velocity is performed in CAMx using the input parameter RSCALE.

The Intermountain Data Warehouse (IWDW) states that to reproduce the original 2011b WAQS modeling, the months of January to March 2011 should be modeled with „winter-specific“ meteorology and a winter version of CAMx 6.10. This approach was followed but was unable to produce reasonable results for January and February. December is outside this definition of WAQS defined winter and it was possible to produce adequate results for this month with the non-winter version of CAMx v6.10. It was determined that using the most recent version of CAMX (v 6.40) for both January and February and version 6.10 for December was sufficient to reproduce the original 2011b WAQS.

**Table B-9: CAMx Air Quality Model Configurations**

Science Options	Configuration	Details
Model Version	CAMx V6.10 CAMx V6.40	V6.10 used for December V6.40 used for January and February
Vertical Grid Mesh	25 vertical layers collapsed from WRF's 37 vertical layers structure	Layer 1 thickness ~24- m. Model top at ~19-km (AGL)
Grid Interaction	Two-way nesting for 36- and 12-km domains. One-way nesting for the 4-km domain.	
Plume-in-Grid (PiG)	Invoke PiG for all three PacifiCorp power plants	Subgrid-scale plume chemistry and dynamics module will be used for PacifiCorp power plants
Initial Conditions	10 day spin-up for 36-km and 12-km. 3 day spin-up for 4-km domains	December 21-31, 2010 for 36-km and 12-km domains. 4-km IC derived from 12-km modeling results
Boundary Conditions <sup>1</sup>	36-km from MOZART global chemistry model	4-km boundary conditions derived from WAQS 12-km modeling results. The ammonia along the northern modeling boundary has been increased by a factor of 7.51
<b>Chemistry</b>		
Gas Phase Chemistry	CB6r2	Carbon Bond 6 version 2
Aerosol Chemistry	inorganic aerosol thermodynamics/partitioning model (ISORROPIA) equilibrium	
Cloud Chemistry	Regional Acid Deposition Model (RADM)-type aqueous chemistry	
Meteorological Processor	WRFCAMx	Compatible with CAMx v6.10
Horizontal Transport	K-theory with grid size dependent coefficient of horizontal eddy diffusion	

Science Options	Configuration	Details
Vertical Transport	K-theory (CMAQ-like in WRF-CAMx)	Lower limit of vertical eddy diffusivity = 0.1 m <sup>2</sup> /s or 2.0 m <sup>2</sup> /s; Land use dependent
Deposition Scheme <sup>2</sup>	Zhang dry deposition and CAMx-specific formulation for wet deposition	Ammonia deposition velocity rates are decreased by setting the parameter RSCALE = 1
<b>Numerics</b>		
Gas Phase Chemistry Solver	Euler Backward Iterative (EBI) Fast Solver	
Horizontal Advection Scheme	Piecewise Parabolic Method (PPM) scheme	
Integration Time Step	Wind speed dependent	~0.1-1 min (4-km), 1-5 min (12-km), 5-15 min (36-km)

1 For PacifiCorp modeling, the ammonia along the northern modeling boundary is scaled along all vertical levels. The WAQS modeling remains unchanged.

2 For the PacifiCorp modeling, an RSCALE value of 1 is used. The WAQS modeling used a RSCALE value of 0.

### B.3 Air Quality Model Performance Evaluation Methodology

The air quality MPE provides an assessment of the strengths and limitations of the air quality modeling system. The MPE results presented in Chapter B4.0 compare the 4-km domain 2011 base year model-predicted concentrations to available monitored concentrations for specific gas-phase and particle-phase species. The MPE has been conducted using a suite of statistical metrics and graphical analyses as described in this chapter.

#### B.3.1 Ambient Monitoring Data Used to Evaluate CAMx Model Performance

Data from ambient monitoring networks for select particulate species were used to evaluate CAMx's model performance of the WAQS and PacifiCorp modeling platforms. Ambient data for year 2011 were collected from each of the selected monitor networks. Statistical differences were calculated between the modeled concentrations and the monitored values. The statistics, time periods, and spatial extents assessed varied by the pollutant and metric of interest. Per the objective of this MPE, the PM evaluation includes sulfate (SO<sub>4</sub>), nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub>), and ammonium (NH<sub>4</sub>).

#### B.3.2 Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE) Network

The Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE) monitoring network was established in 1985 and is a multiple federal agency effort designed to monitor visibility and related air quality, focused on 156 Class I visibility-sensitive regions in the U.S. (e.g., national parks) (Malm et al. 1994; Malm et al. 2002). The primary focus is on using aerosol chemical composition from a suite of filter-based measurements to reconstruct atmospheric light scattering and light absorbing properties.

The IMPROVE data are reported for actual temperature and pressure conditions at the sampling sites. The network monitors particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 2.5 microns (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) mass, particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 10 microns (PM<sub>10</sub>) mass, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> speciated chemical composition using four independent modules with the following design:

- Filter Module A collects PM<sub>2.5</sub> on a Teflon substrate. These filters are analyzed for PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass concentration, optical absorption, hydrogen, and trace minerals and metals via particle-induced x-ray (PIXE) and x-ray fluorescence (XRF) methods.
- Filter Module B collects PM<sub>2.5</sub> on a nylon substrate preceded by a sodium carbonate coated tubular aluminum denuder that removes nitric acid vapors. These filters are analyzed by ion chromatography for NO<sub>3</sub>, chloride, sulfate, and nitrite. A subset of IMPROVE sites do not use this filter.
- Filter Module C collects PM<sub>2.5</sub> on a quartz substrate. These filters are analyzed for carbonaceous material using Thermal Optical Reflectance (TOR). A backup secondary filter is used to quantify volatility loss artifacts.
- Filter Module D collects PM<sub>10</sub> on a Teflon substrate that is analyzed for PM<sub>10</sub> mass concentration.

### B.3.3 Ambient Ammonia Monitoring Network (AMoN)

The Ammonia Monitoring Network (AMoN) provides measurements of ambient ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) concentrations at 66 locations across the United States through the National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP). The network provides valuable information for land managers, air quality modelers, ecologists, and policymakers that allow the assessment of long-term trends in ambient NH<sub>3</sub> concentrations and deposition of reduced nitrogen species. It also helps to validate atmospheric models and assess changes in atmospheric chemistry due to SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> reductions. The AMoN uses passive samplers, which do not require electricity or a data logger. The samples are deployed for 2-week periods. The NADP's Central Analytical Laboratory assembles and ships passive samplers to sites and, when returned, analyzes, quality assures, and provides the analytical data to the NADP.

### B.3.4 Statistical Metrics and Benchmarks

As part of the MPE, the metrics defined in **Table B3-1** were calculated and presented in Section B3.0 for the select particle-phase species. The statistical metrics were calculated for each monitoring site, and the results were processed and reported for various spatial and temporal scales. Temporally, the statistical measures were calculated for 24-hour for the select particle-phase species. These results were averaged by month for display, further analysis, and reporting. The results are presented by monitoring network. The equations for the statistical metrics calculated and analyzed as part of the MPE are shown in **Table B-2**. The number of valid monitors used for calculating the statistical performance metrics is shown in **Table B-3**.

**Table B-10: Definitions of Statistical Performance Metrics**

Statistical Measure	Mathematical Expression	Notes
Mean Fractional Bias (MFB)	$\frac{2}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{P_i - O_i}{P_i + O_i} \right)$	Reported as percent P <sub>i</sub> = prediction at time and location i O <sub>i</sub> = observation at time and location i N = Number of matched predictions and observations
Mean Fractional Gross Error (MFGE)	$\frac{2}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left  \frac{P_i - O_i}{P_i + O_i} \right $	Reported as percent

Statistical Measure	Mathematical Expression	Notes
Normalized Mean Bias (NMB)	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (P_i - O_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^N O_i}$	Reported as percent
Normalized Mean Error (NME)	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N  P_i - O_i }{\sum_{i=1}^N O_i}$	Reported as percent
Coefficient of Determination ( $r^2$ )	$\frac{\left[ \sum_{i=1}^N (P_i - \bar{P})(O_i - \bar{O}) \right]^2}{\sum_{i=1}^N (P_i - \bar{P})^2 \sum_{i=1}^N (O_i - \bar{O})^2}$	$\bar{P}$ = arithmetic average of $P_i$ , $i=1,2,\dots, N$ ; $\bar{O}$ = arithmetic average of $O_i$ , $i=1,2,\dots,N$
Mean Observation	$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N O_i$	Reported as concentration (e.g., micrograms per cubic meter [ $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ] or parts per million by volume [ppmv] depending on the pollutant)
Mean Prediction	$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N P_i$	Reported as concentration (e.g., $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ or ppmv depending on the pollutant)

**Table B-11: Number of Ambient Air Quality Monitors by Network and Season**

Monitoring Network	Species	4-km Domain		
		January	February	December
IMPROVE (Daily)	Speciated PM Concentrations	15	15	15
AMoN (Bi-weekly)	Ammonia (NH3)	2	2	2

### B.3.5 Particulate Statistical Measures

USEPA's (2007) PM suggested a suite of metrics for use in evaluating model performance. The standard set of statistical performance measures suggested for evaluating fine particulate models include: 1) normalized bias; 2) normalized gross (unsigned) error; 3) MFB; 4) MFGE; and 5) MFB in standard deviations. In past regional PM model evaluations (Tesche et al. 2005; Tonnesen et al. 2006),

fractional bias and fractional error were found to be the most useful summary measures. Therefore, for this study, all error and bias metrics are calculated for PM species; however, the results only are analyzed for MFB and MFGE. While all statistics in **Table B-2** are presented for all chemical species discussed in this analysis, when assessing model performance for particle-phase species, the analysis focuses on MFB and MFGE.

As defined by Boylan and Russell (2006), the performance goals for PM species are MFB within  $\pm 30$  percent and MFGE  $\leq 50$  percent. The performance criteria are MFB within  $\pm 60$  percent and MFGE  $\leq 75$  percent. The performance goals are the more stringent of the two sets of metrics, and a good-performing model will achieve these goals. The performance criteria are less strict. If the criteria are equaled or exceeded, it suggests potential shortcomings with the model simulation. The goals and criteria increase at lower concentrations according to the following equations, in which  $C_o$  is the observation concentration and  $C_m$  is the model-predicted concentration:

Performance Goal:

$$FB \leq \pm 170 e^{-\frac{0.5(\overline{C_o} + \overline{C_m})}{0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3}} + 30$$

$$FE \leq 150 e^{-\frac{0.5(\overline{C_o} + \overline{C_m})}{0.75 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3}} + 50$$

Performance Criteria:

$$FE \leq 125 e^{-\frac{0.5(\overline{C_o} + \overline{C_m})}{0.75 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3}} + 75$$

$$FB \leq \pm 140 e^{-\frac{0.5(\overline{C_o} + \overline{C_m})}{0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3}} + 60$$

While the Boylan and Russell (2006) performance goals and criteria may not be achieved for this study, particularly for species that typically are difficult to model such as  $\text{NO}_3$ , performance goals and criteria will be used to put the PM model performance into context and to facilitate model performance inter-comparison across episodes, species, models, and sensitivity tests.

Recent modeling guidance does not recommend specific criteria that distinguish between adequate and inadequate model performance (USEPA 2007). Instead, it is recommended that a suite of performance measures and displays be analyzed and that a “weight of evidence” approach be used to assess whether the model performs sufficiently well to be used for the intended purpose.

### B.3.6 Model Performance Evaluation Software Tool

The University of California Riverside Model Performance Evaluation Software (MPES) (Chien et al. 2005) was developed to efficiently compute performance metrics and to present results in both tabular and graphical formats. The MPES generates the statistical measures shown in **Table B-2** for appropriate temporal and spatial extents for each pollutant. The MPES was used to calculate the average of the model performance metrics for each month and to summarize these results using bar plots to compare the monthly average statistics for each species.

For particle-phase species, the comparison of modeled concentrations to ambient concentrations can be complicated. The PM is composed of many chemically different particle-phase species, and there are many different methods to measure these species, which makes it difficult to compare ambient concentrations to modeled concentrations. The comparison of modeled PM species to the monitored data must be performed in a consistent fashion. **Table B-4** identifies the approach that was used to map

measured data from each of the PM monitoring sites to the CAMx modeled PM species.

**Table B-12: Mapping of Monitored Particulate Species to Modeled Particulate Species**

Compound	Monitored Species Definitions by Network <sup>1</sup>		CAMx Modeled Species Definitions <sup>3</sup>
	IMPROVE <sup>2</sup>	AMoN	
SO <sub>4</sub>	SO <sub>4</sub>	---	PSO <sub>4</sub>
NO <sub>3</sub>	NO <sub>3</sub>	---	PNO <sub>3</sub>
NH <sub>4</sub>	NH <sub>4</sub>	---	PNH <sub>4</sub>
NH <sub>3</sub>	---	NH <sub>3</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	NH <sub>3</sub>

<sup>1</sup> Monitored species names are defined differently for each individual monitoring network and are available on-line. Compounds not measured by a network are indicated by "---."

<sup>2</sup> The IMPROVE monitoring program revised the methods used to report and analyze the data

<sup>3</sup> The model species in ppm is converted to µg/m<sup>3</sup> using STP condition

In addition to statistical summary tables, results are presented in graphical format to facilitate quantitative and qualitative comparisons between CAMx predictions and measurements. Together with the statistical metrics identified in **Table B-2**, the graphical procedures are intended to help: 1) identify unreasonable model-predicted concentrations; and 2) guide the implementation of performance improvements in the 2011 model input files in a logical, defensible manner. These graphical tools were used to depict the ability of the model to predict the observed particle-phase concentrations for comparison to PM standards.

Graphical displays include the following:

- Time-series plots for the entire period at select monitoring locations.
- Spatial plots of particulate concentration isopleths overlaid with monitoring values during selected days. These days are based on 20 percent worst days for IMPROVE monitors.

These graphical displays were generated with the MPES, where appropriate. Due to the large number of plots that are generated to cover all sites and all species, only selected graphical plots are presented in the MPE.

## B.4 Model Performance Evaluation Results

The model-predicted concentrations of particle-phase chemical species were compared to monitored values. Model performance was evaluated for particulate SO<sub>4</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub> and gas-phase ammonia. The MPE provides the following analyses:

- Tables of annual and seasonal statistical metrics summarized by monitoring network;
- Bar charts of monthly mean fractional bias (MFB) by monitoring network;
- Time series plots for selected monitoring stations; and
- Spatial plots for the selected days.

### B.4.2 Sulfate

**Table B-5** below shows the MPE statistics that compare model results with available observations for all IMPROVE sites within the 4-km domain. The performance with the 2011b WAQS are compared to the PacifiCorp simulation. **Figure B-1** shows a bar chart that compares the monthly Mean Fractional Bias (MFB) for the original WAQS modeling and the PacifiCorp MPE simulation. In general, there are very small differences between the WAQS and PacifiCorp modeling simulations for the selected months. Both modeling simulations consistently over-predict concentrations during this time.

**Figure B-2** shows time series that compares observed daily average sulfate concentration at selected IMPROVE monitoring sites with model-predicted concentrations. The sites fall within Utah, predominantly downwind from the location of PacifiCorp's power plants. The time series are presented for January, February, and December 2011. Most monitor sites record peak SO<sub>4</sub> concentrations in December, with isolated events throughout January and February. The lowest SO<sub>4</sub> concentrations tend to occur in early January. The models results generally follow the episodic peaks in the monitored SO<sub>4</sub> concentrations. The model results systematically show higher concentrations than is observed during all months, similar to the statistical analysis discussed above. The time series also illustrates that both modeling simulations are very similar throughout the simulation period.

**Figure B-3** shows spatial plots of model-predicted sulfate daily average concentrations for selected days. These days belong to the 20% Worst visibility days from the monitoring record at IMPROVE sites in 2011 for at least 2 Class I areas in the 4-km domain. **Figure B-3** also presents the monitored 24-hour average SO<sub>4</sub> concentrations shown as circles. For the selected days both modeling simulations seem to produce a sulfate spatial pattern consistent with the observations. Sulfate concentrations are generally less than 1 µg/m<sup>3</sup> over the entire domain with isolated regions where concentrations exceed 2 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The figure also shows that in general over the entire domain, the differences between the WAQS and PacifiCorp simulations are small with only some isolated areas with both positive and negative values, indicative that in some instances the PacifiCorp results will produce slightly higher concentrations, but in other regions it will result in lower concentrations than the WAQS.

**Table B-13: Model Performance Statistical Summary for Sulfate**

Monitoring Network	Statistic (%)/ Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	January		February		December	
		WAQS	PacifiCorp	WAQS	PacifiCorp	WAQS	PacifiCorp
IMPROVE (Daily)	MFB	78	78	58	57	53	53
	MFGE	80	81	64	64	56	57
	NMB	109	110	77	77	57	59
	NME	116	116	88	90	63	64
	R <sup>2</sup>	0.177	0.177	0.017	0.008	0.540	0.537
	Observed Mean Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.181	0.181	0.257	0.257	0.296	0.296
	Predicted Mean Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.378	0.379	0.456	0.454	0.466	0.470

**Figure B-11: Monthly Mean Fractional Bias for Sulfate**

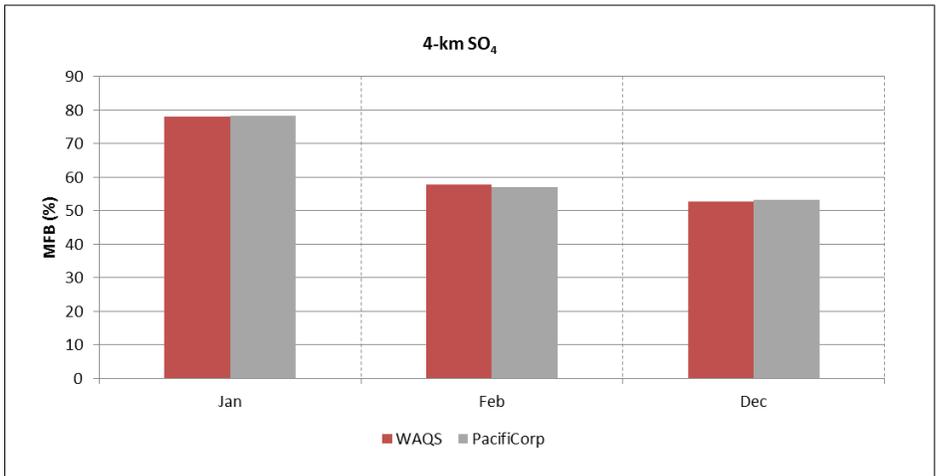


Figure B-12: Time Series for Sulfate at the Selected IMPROVE Sites for the Entire Period

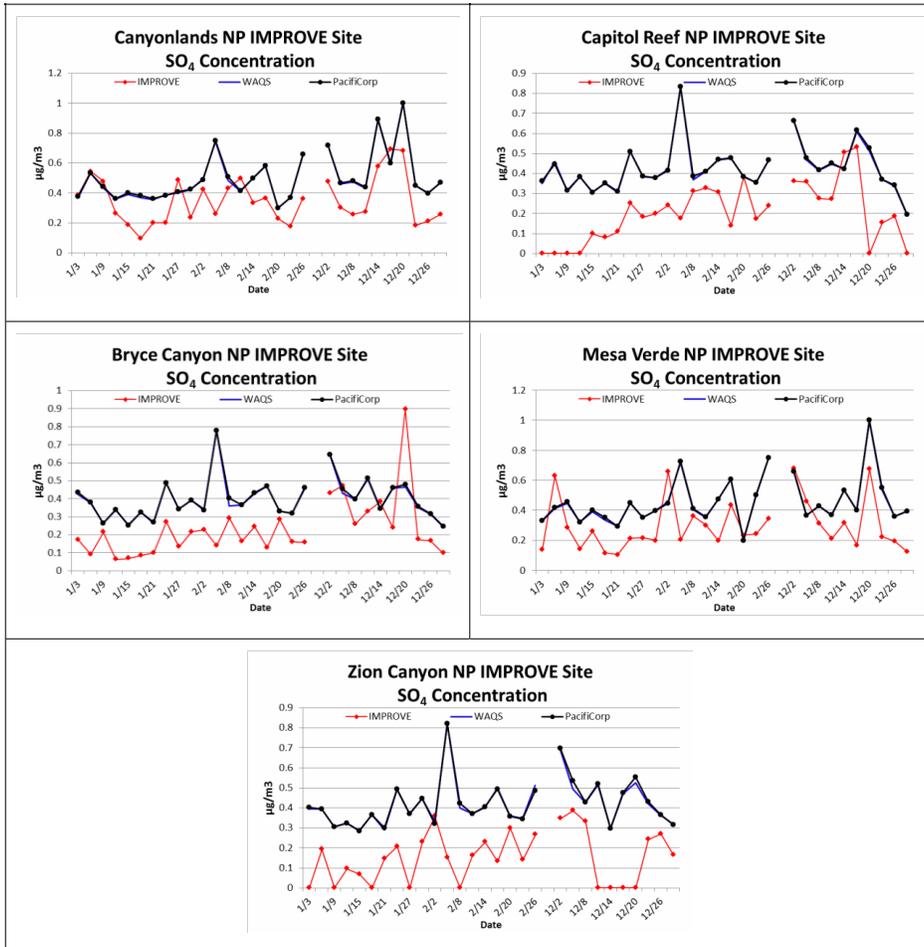
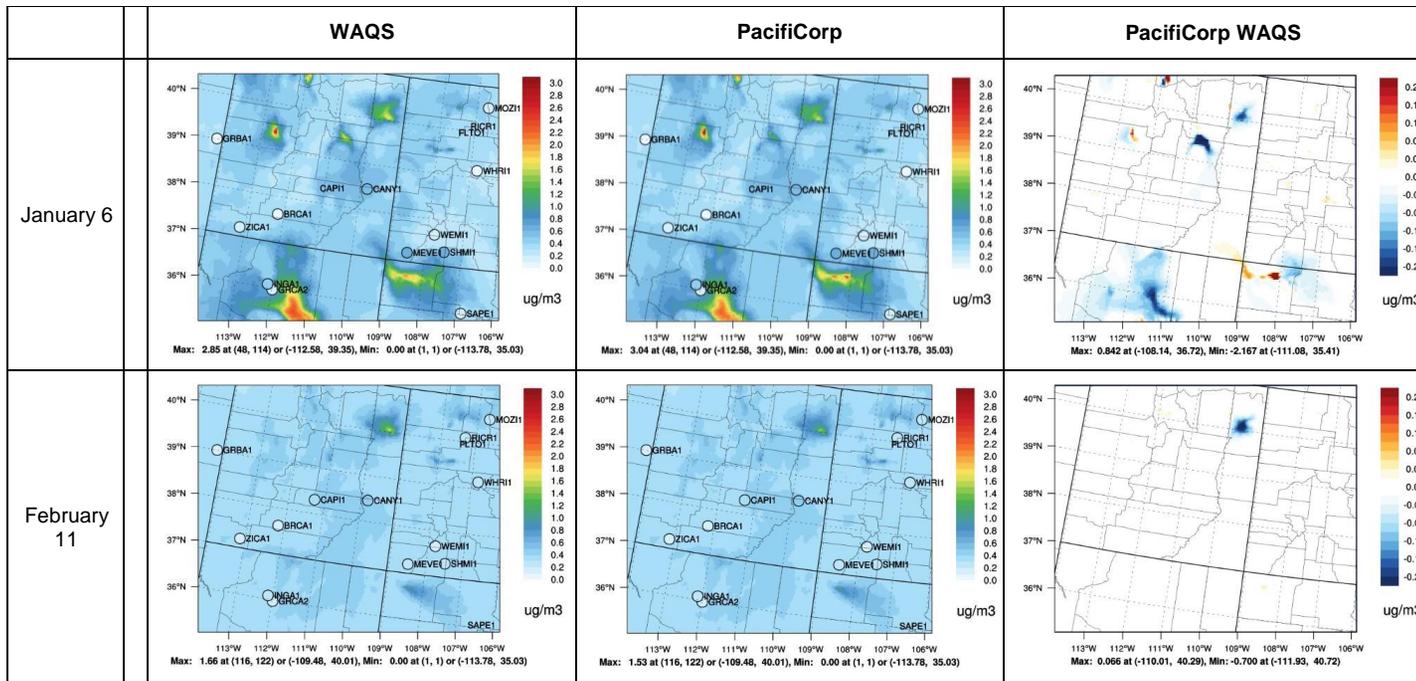
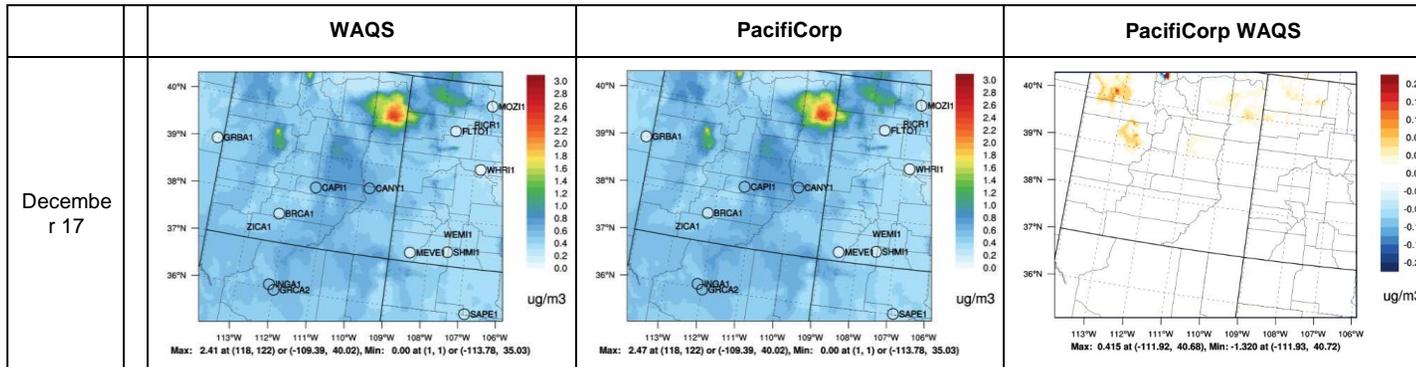


Figure B-3: Spatial Plots Comparing WAQS and PacifiCorp Modeling Concentrations for Sulfate for Selected Days





## B4.2 Nitrate

**Table B-6** below shows the MPE statistics that compare model-predicted nitrate concentrations with available observations for all IMPROVE sites within the 4-km domain. The performance with the 2011b WAQS are compared to the PacifiCorp simulation. **Figure B-4** shows a bar chart that compares the monthly Mean Fractional Bias (MFB) for the original WAQS modeling and the PacifiCorp MPE simulation. The original WAQS simulations showed a systematic under prediction of model-predicted nitrate concentrations. The results for the PacifiCorp simulations show a general improvement in the formation of nitrate with slight over predictions in January and slight under predictions in December. Although both the WAQS and PacifiCorp simulations under predict nitrate concentration in February, the PacifiCorp biases are lower. Analysis of the other statistics provided in **Table B-7** show that the ammonia adjustments made to the PacifiCorp model configuration lead to improved nitrate performance.

**Figure B-5** shows time series that compares observed daily average nitrate concentration at selected IMPROVE monitoring sites with model-predicted concentrations. The sites fall within Utah, predominantly downwind from the location of PacifiCorp's power plants. The time series are presented for January, February, and December 2011. Most monitor sites record peak nitrate concentrations in January and December, with isolated events in February. The time series show that at the selected Class I areas the PacifiCorp nitrate model-predicted concentrations are systematically higher than those predicted with the original WAQS. Neither model is able to consistently predict the peaks of nitrate in the monitored record, but the PacifiCorp simulations are better to reproduce these concentrations than the WAQS.

**Figure B-6** shows spatial plots of model-predicted nitrate daily average concentrations for selected days. These days belong to the 20% Worst visibility days from the monitoring record at IMPROVE sites in 2011 for at least 2 Class I areas in the 4-km domain. **Figure B-6** also presents the monitored 24-hour average nitrate concentrations shown as circles. For the selected days both modeling simulations produce similar spatial patterns for nitrate concentrations, however the PacifiCorp results consistently lead to higher nitrate concentrations over the entire computational domain.

**Table B-14: Model Performance Statistical Summary for Nitrate**

Monitoring Network	Statistic (%)/ Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	January		February		December	
		WAQS	PacifiCorp	WAQS	PacifiCorp	WAQS	PacifiCorp
IMPROVE (Daily)	MFB	-74	15	-113	-52	-76	-7
	MFGE	134	101	129	88	121	109
	NMB	-61	8	-67	-27	-58	18
	NME	97	106	79	73	79	98
	R <sup>2</sup>	0.015	0.083	0.034	0.139	0.294	0.259
	Observed Mean Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.192	0.192	0.171	0.171	0.188	0.188
	Predicted Mean Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.074	0.208	0.056	0.125	0.079	0.223

Figure B-13: Monthly Mean Fractional Bias for Nitrate

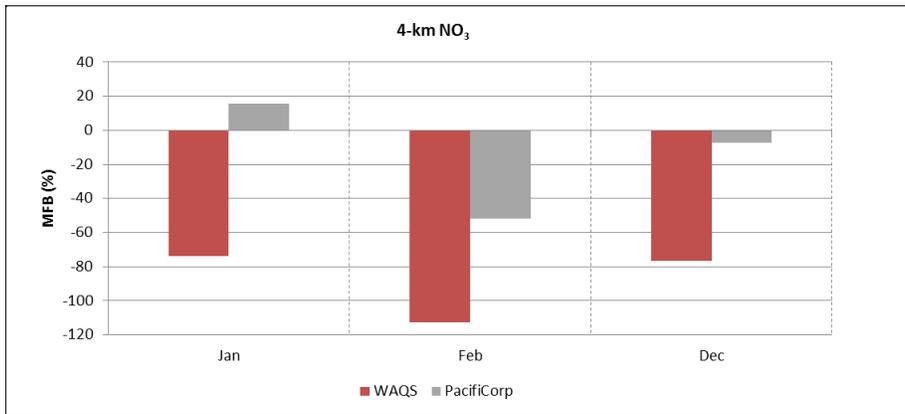


Figure B-14: Time Series for Nitrate at the Selected IMPROVE Sites for the Entire Period

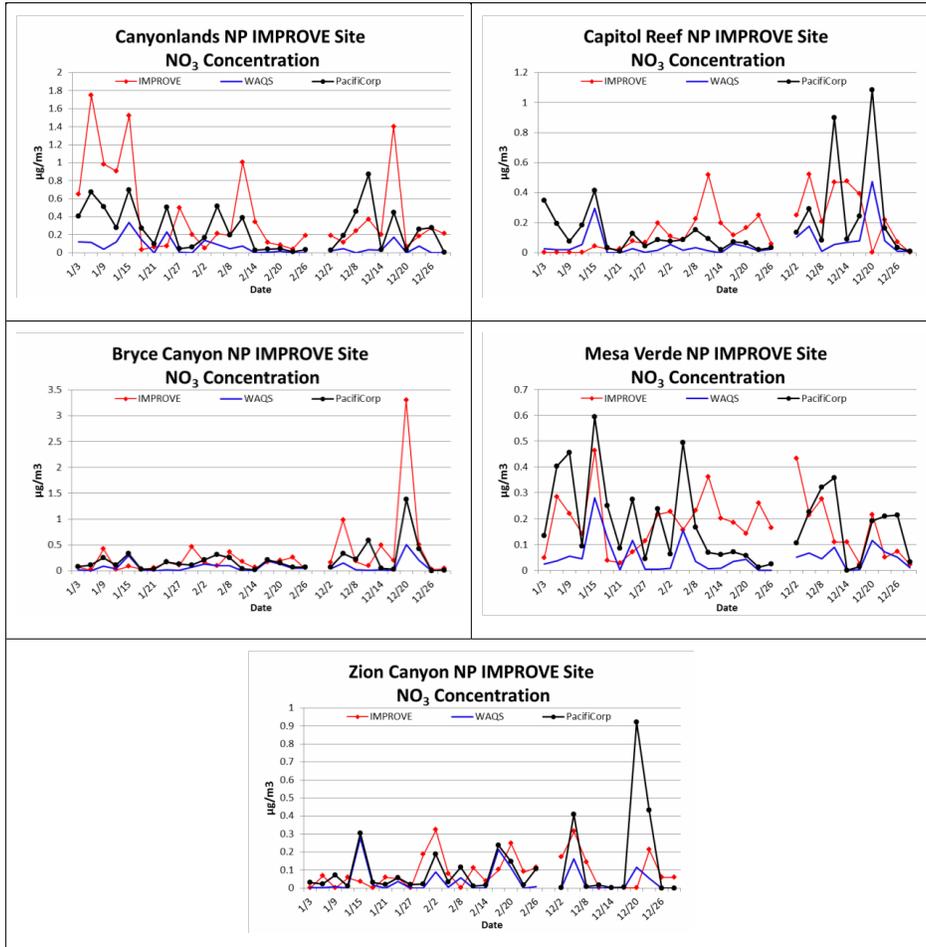
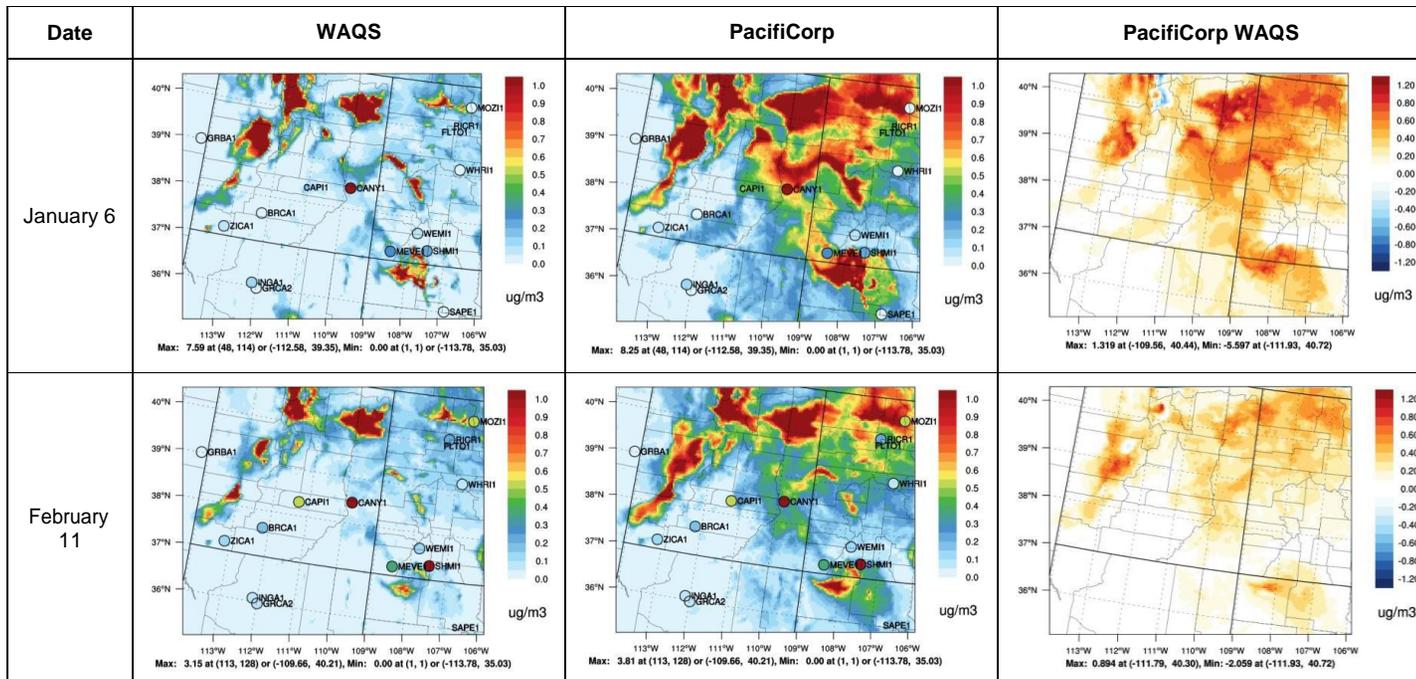
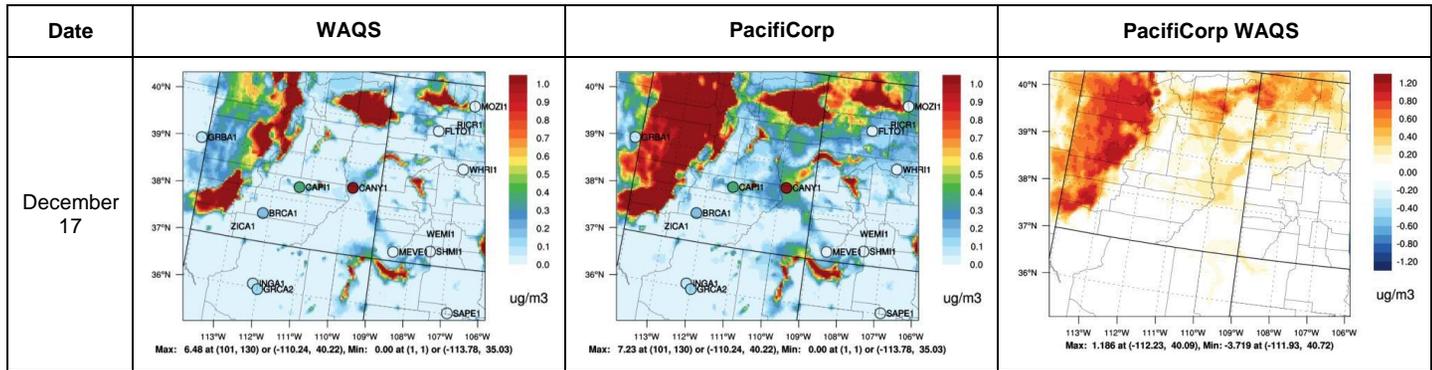


Figure B-15: 4-km Spatial Plots Comparing WAQS and PacifiCorp Modeling Concentrations for Nitrate for Select Days





### B4.3 Ammonium

**Table B-7** below shows the MPE statistics that compare model results with available observations for all IMPROVE sites within the 4-km domain. **Figure B-7** shows a bar chart that compares the monthly Mean Fractional Bias (MFB) for the original WAQS modeling and the PacifiCorp MPE simulation. The statistics show that the original WAQS modeling results exhibit systematic under-predictions of ammonium concentrations for all the months. The changes in the configuration for the PacifiCorp simulations ultimately result in higher ammonium concentrations that lead to slight over-predictions of ammonium concentrations in January and December with slight under-predictions in February.

**Figure B-8** shows time series that compares observed daily average ammonium concentration at selected IMPROVE monitoring sites with model-predicted concentrations. The sites fall within Utah, predominantly downwind from the location of PacifiCorp's power plants. The time series are presented for January, February, and December 2011. Most monitor sites record peak NH<sub>4</sub> concentrations in December, with isolated events throughout January and February. Except for Canyonlands, the lowest NH<sub>4</sub> concentrations the monitoring sites tend occur in early January. The model results generally follow the episodic peaks in the monitored NH<sub>4</sub> concentrations. The model results are systematically similar to the observed concentrations during all months, with both models being unable to reproduce the magnitude of the peaks. However, the PacifiCorp modeling scenario captures the overall distribution of the observed values better.

**Figure B-9** shows spatial plots of model-predicted ammonium daily average concentrations for selected days each month. The days selected belong to the 20% Worst visibility days from the monitoring record at IMPROVE sites in 2011 for at least 2 Class I areas in the 4-km domain. **Figure B-10** also presents the monitored 24-hour average NH<sub>4</sub> concentrations shown as circles. For the selected days both modeling simulations seem to produce a spatial pattern consistent with the observations, except for Canyonlands, the both models under-predict relative to the observations. Ammonium concentrations are generally less than 1 µg/m<sup>3</sup> over the entire domain with some regions where concentrations exceed 4 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The figure also shows that in general over the entire domain the differences between the WAQS and PacifiCorp simulations are small in the southern portion of the computational domain but the PacifiCorp simulation consistently increases ammonium concentrations relative to the WAQS.

**Table B-15: Model Performance Statistical Summary for Ammonium**

Monitoring Network	Statistic (%)/ Concentration (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	January		February		December	
		WAQS	PacifiCorp	WAQS	PacifiCorp	WAQS	PacifiCorp
IMPROVE (Daily)	MFB	-37	3	-21	-7	-5	20
	MFGE	61	54	48	46	38	44
	NMB	-43	-5	-22	-7	-17	11
	NME	57	59	44	46	37	46
	R <sup>2</sup>	0.210	0.148	0.062	0.078	0.383	0.349
	Observed Mean Concentration (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.122	0.122	0.146	0.146	0.166	0.166
	Predicted Mean Concentration (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.069	0.116	0.113	0.136	0.137	0.184

Figure B-16: Monthly Mean Fractional Bias for Ammonium

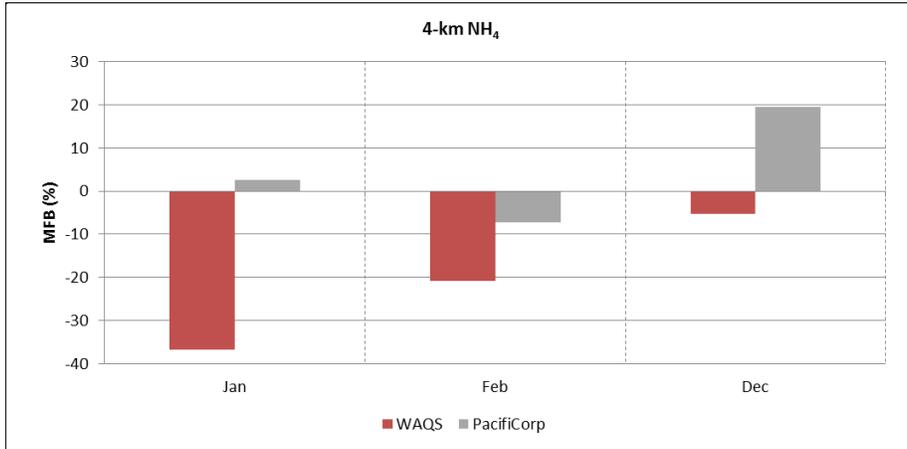
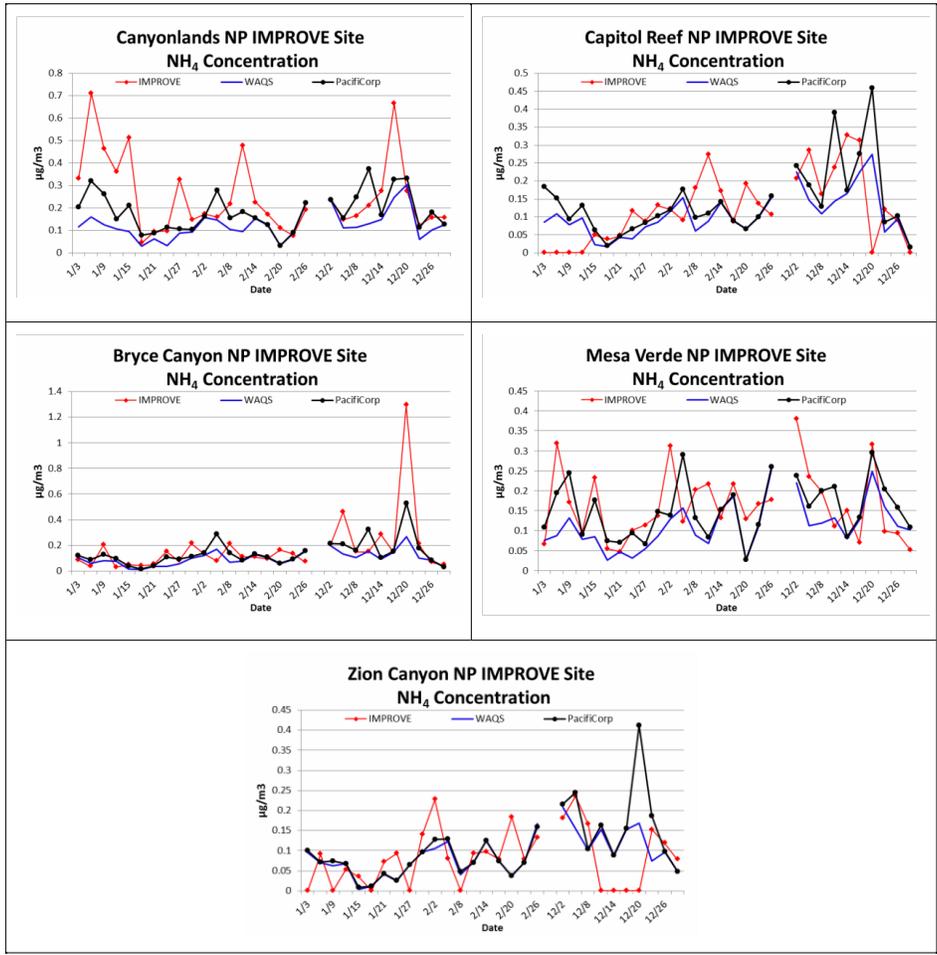
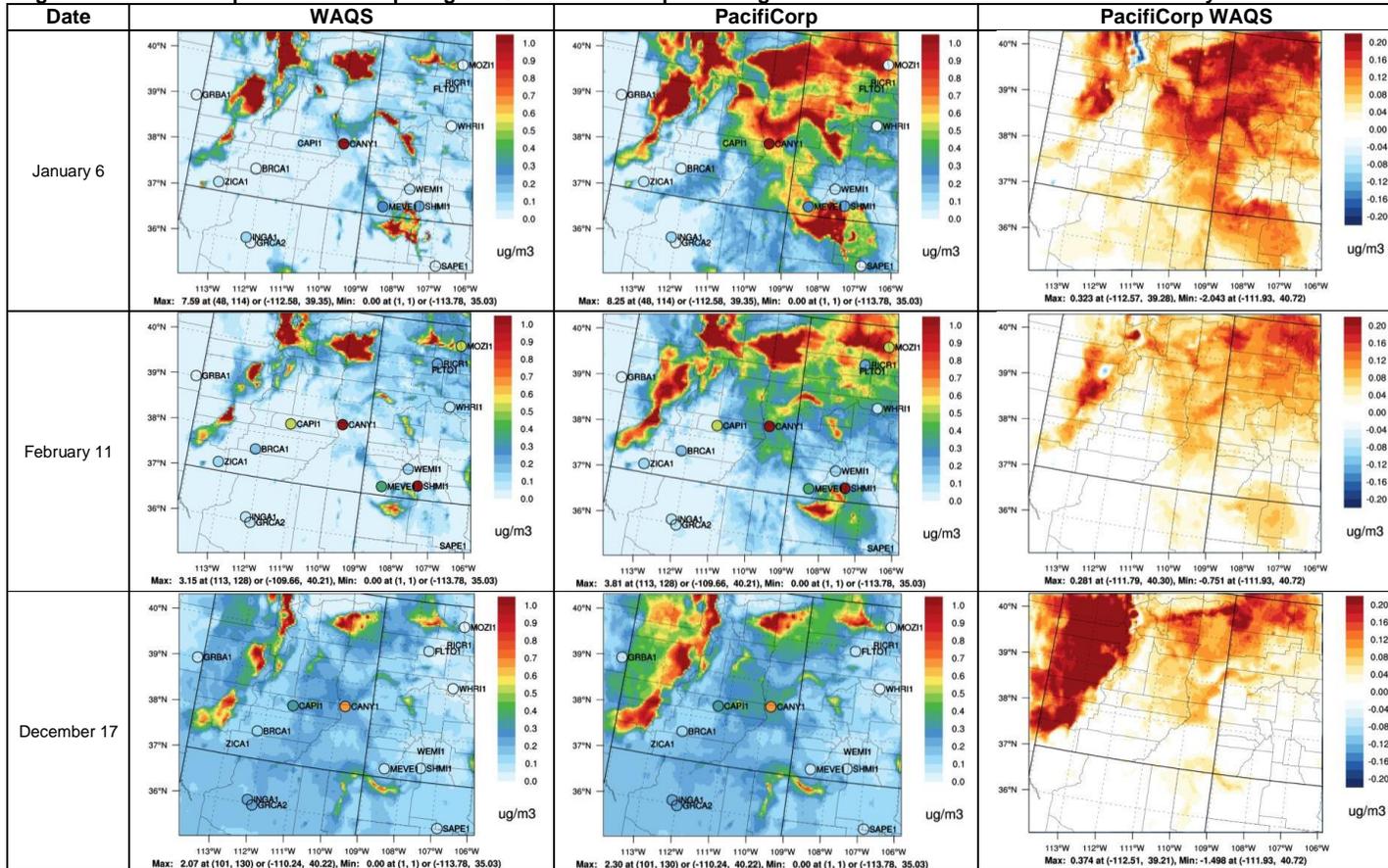


Figure B-17: Time Series for Ammonium at the Selected IMPROVE Sites for the Entire Period



**Figure B-18: 4-km Spatial Plots Comparing WAQS and PacifiCorp Modeling Concentrations for Ammonium for Select Days**



#### B4.4 Ammonia

**Table B-8** below shows the MPE statistics that compare model-predicted ammonia concentrations with available observations at AMoN sites within the 4-km domain. The performance with the 2011bWAQS are compared to the PacifiCorp simulation. **Figure B-10** shows a bar chart that compares the monthly Mean Fractional Bias (MFB) for the original WAQS modeling and the PacifiCorp MPE simulation. The original WAQS simulations showed a systematic under-prediction of model-predicted ammonia concentrations. Although the model-predicted ammonia for the PacifiCorp simulations also show systematic under-predictions, the biases are noticeable lower which indicates better performance relative to the WAQS.

**Figure B-11** shows time series that compares observed biweekly average ammonia concentrations at selected AMoN monitoring sites with model-predicted concentrations. The selected sites (located in New Mexico) are the only ones that fall within the computational domain and have data for the year 2011. The time series are presented for January, February, and December 2011. Most monitor sites record the largest ammonia concentrations in January and February. The time series show that the PacifiCorp ammonia model-predicted concentrations are systematically higher than those predicted with the original WAQS. Neither model is able to consistently predict the peaks of ammonia in the monitored record, but the PacifiCorp simulations are better to reproduce these concentrations than the WAQS.

**Figure B-12** shows spatial plots of model-predicted ammonia daily average concentrations for selected days. These days belong to the 20% Worst visibility days from the monitoring record at IMPROVE sites in 2011 for at least 2 Class I areas in the 4-km domain. **Figure B-12** shows that for the selected days both modeling simulations produce very similar spatial patterns for the distribution of ammonia concentrations in the computational domain. Ammonia concentrations appear to be higher near the sources and rapidly decrease in magnitude farther away from these locations. Compared to the original WAQS, the PacifiCorp modeling results lead to consistently higher ammonia concentrations over the entire computational domain, particularly near the sources of this species.

**Table B-16: Model Performance Statistical Summary for Ammonia**

Monitoring Network	Statistic (%) / Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	January		February		December	
		WAQS	PacifiCorp	WAQS	PacifiCorp	WAQS	PacifiCorp
AMoN (Bi-Weekly)	MFB	-120	-46	-126	-74	-125	-104
	MFGE	120	49	126	74	125	104
	NMB	-69	-25	-73	-52	-61	-46
	NME	69	30	73	52	61	46
	R <sup>2</sup>	0.93	0.85	0.940	0.990	1.000	1.000
	Observed Mean Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.39	0.39	0.580	0.580	0.440	0.440
	Predicted Mean Concentration ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	0.12	0.29	0.154	0.281	0.174	0.236

Figure B-19: Monthly Mean Fractional Bias for Ammonia

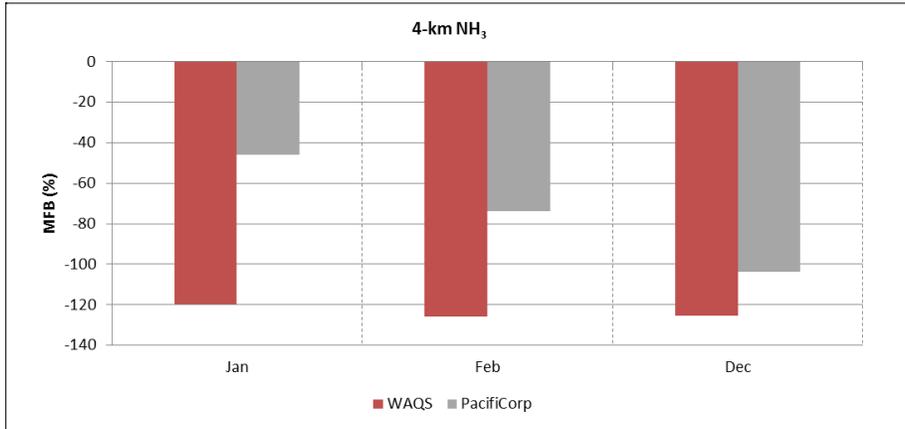
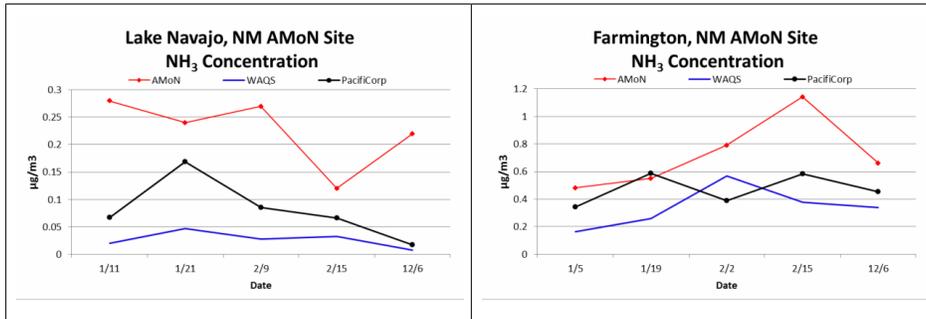
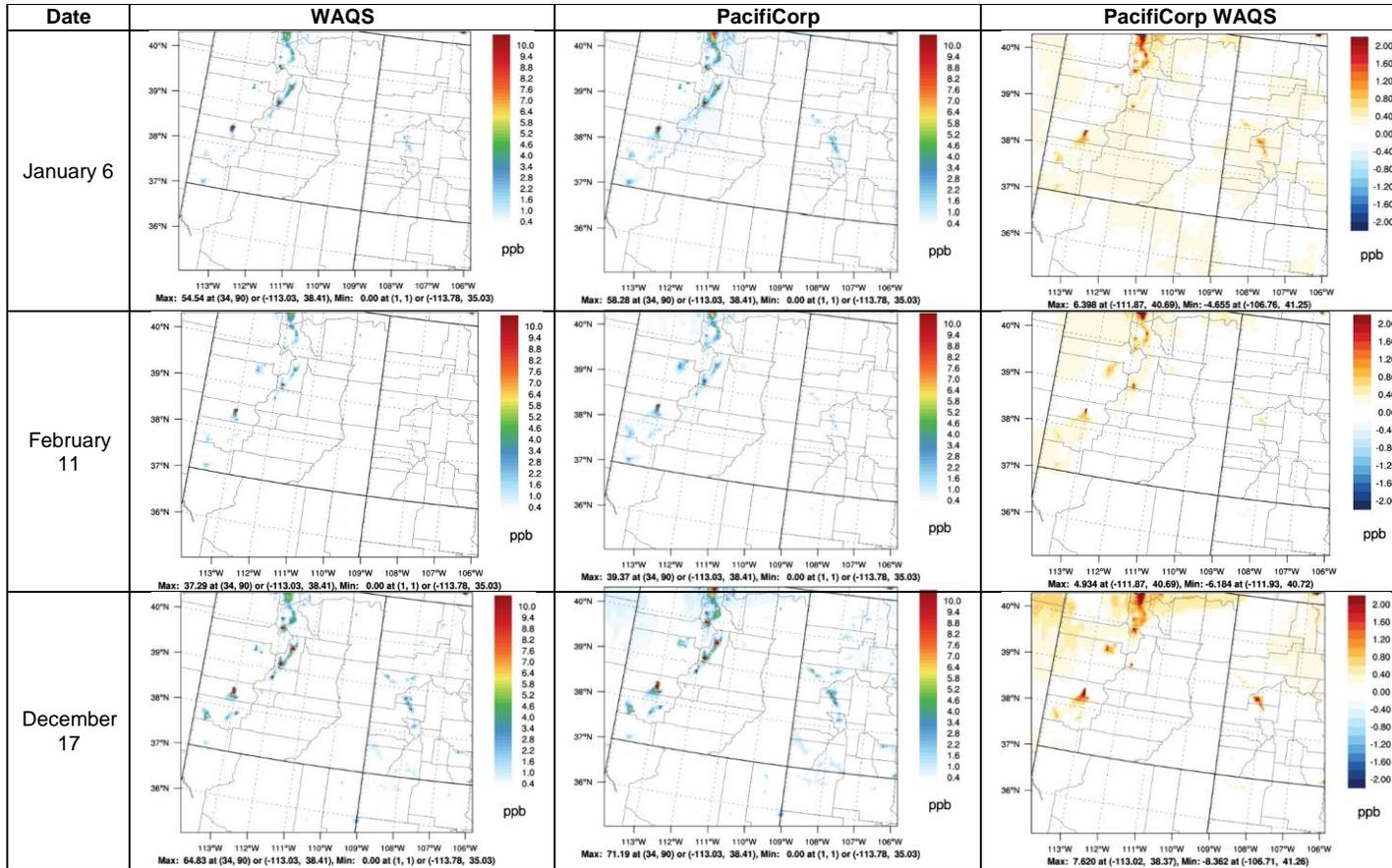


Figure B-20: Time Series for Ammonia at the Select AMoN Sites for the Entire Period



**Figure B-21: 4-km Spatial Plots Comparing WAQS and PacifiCorp Modeling Concentrations for Ammonia for Select Days**



## B.5 Summary and Conclusions of Model Performance Evaluation

The modeling platform was evaluated with available observations for those species relevant to the visibility assessment of PacifiCorp's power plants in Utah. This modeling platform was configured with changes to the boundary concentrations and the ammonia deposition velocity with the intention to improve particulate formation over the original 2011b Western Air Quality Study (WAQS) platform. This MPE provides the analysis performed with the 4-km computational domain defined for this assessment in Chapter 2 and the ammonia modifications described in the modeling protocol (AECOM 2018). The MPE presented in this report is based on the comparison of the modeling results to the monitored concentrations of multiple pollutants for the year 2011. Model performance was assessed for a select subset of ambient air particle-phase pollutants. The MPE results show that:

- 1) Sulfate performance for the WAQS is extremely similar to the performance reported for all the months using PacifiCorp simulations with the ammonia adjustments. The original WAQS results showed a consistent over-prediction of model-predicted sulfate concentrations. The PacifiCorp performance for sulfate shows that the changes done to the ammonia boundary conditions and the ammonia depositions velocity have almost no noticeable effect in the formation of sulfate in the Class I areas within the computational domain.
- 2) The WAQS performance shows systematic under-prediction of nitrate, ammonia and ammonium concentrations for all the months analyzed. The PacifiCorp simulations show that the ammonia configuration adjustments lead to significantly higher concentrations for all these species. For some like nitrate and ammonium some months now show slight over-predictions.
- 3) For ammonia, the new simulations still under-predict concentrations relative to the observations. However, for all months in the new simulations the magnitude of negative biases gets reduced, which indicates better model performance due to the model configuration changes to ammonia.

In summary, the ammonia adjustments performed over the original 2011b WAQS modeling platform and explicitly simulated for the 4-km computational domain showed significant improvements in the model-predicted concentrations of sulfate, nitrate, ammonium and ammonia during the months of January, February, and December when higher contributions of nitrate are expected to affect visibility in Class I areas. These adjustments were performed for the modeling simulations to improve the visibility estimates due to different emissions scenarios as proposed in the approved modeling protocol.

## Appendix C Time Series Analysis of Modeled Sulfate and Nitrate for Selected Class I Areas

This appendix provides a time series analysis in the form of bar charts for modeled sulfate and nitrate for select sites to understand the changes in these concentrations throughout the year for both the Utah SIP and USEPA FIP modeling scenarios. The sites selected represent concentrations at the following class I areas: Bryce Canyon NP, Capitol Reef NP and Mesa Verde NP. The analysis presented here explains why the modeled visibility impacts for the USEPA FIP at these sites (presented in **Table 4-3** in the main report) for the 20 percent worse days leads to larger modeled visibility improvements relative to the Utah SIP, and puts these model results into perspective.

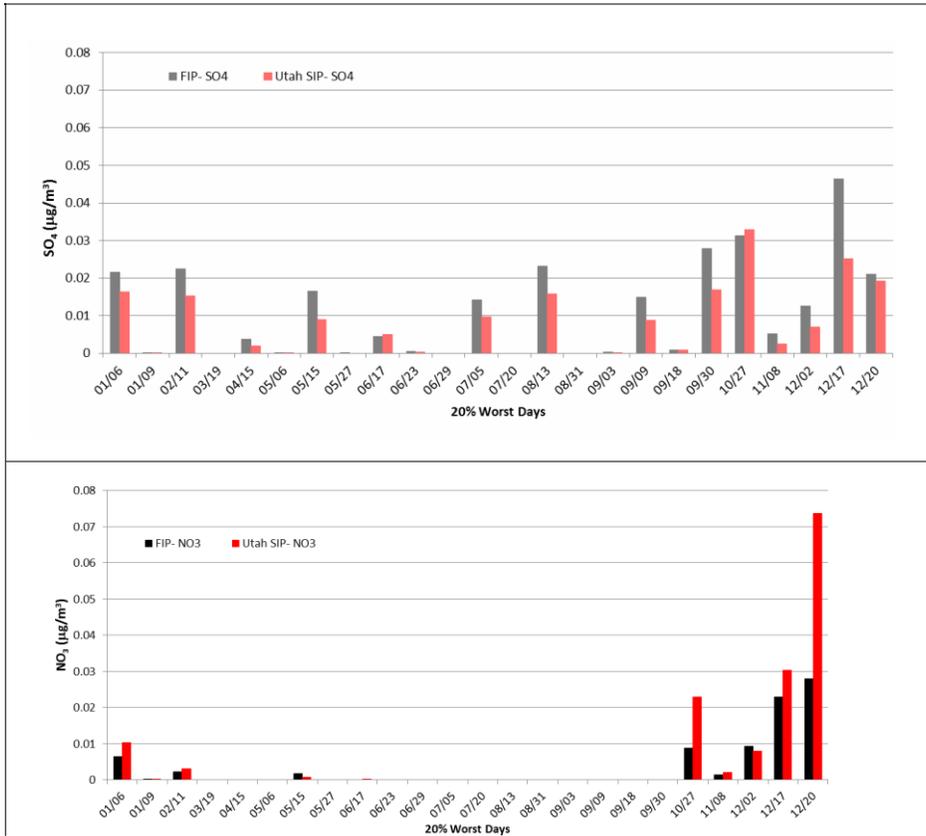
**Table 4-3** shows that the Class I area with the largest positive difference between the Utah SIP and the USEPA FIP visibility impacts is Capitol Reef NP. **Figure C-1** presents the modeled sulfate and nitrate daily average concentrations comparison between the USEPA FIP and Utah FIP during the 20 Percent Worst Days at Capitol Reef NP. This figure shows that sulfate concentrations are generally lower for most of the days for the Utah SIP scenario since the benefits of reductions in sulfur dioxide emissions are generally realized throughout the entire 20 percent worst days period. The nitrate concentrations are only significant over the fall and winter periods. Even then, the nitrate concentrations are higher for the Utah SIP scenario relative to the USEPA FIP for only eight days during this period and the maximum impacts occur on December 20<sup>th</sup>. The nitrate concentrations for the Utah SIP on that day are more than double the USEPA FIP contributions. This figure illustrates that only a few days of high nitrate concentration dominate the final visibility impairment estimates. Looking at the number of days, the Utah SIP is actually better than the USEPA FIP on many more of the 20 Percent Worst Days.

**Figure C-2** presents modeled sulfate and nitrate daily average concentrations in the form of stacked bar charts during the 20 percent worst days for Capitol Reef NP, Bryce Canyon NP, and Mesa Verde NP. These stack bar charts allow for a direct comparison of particulate concentrations between the Utah SIP and USEPA FIP and is a good proxy for visibility since both nitrate and sulfate have similar contributions to haze in the new IMPROVE equation. **Figure C-2** shows the Utah SIP has lower concentrations compared to the USEPA FIP for most of the 20 percent worst days, with a few exceptions when nitrate concentrations are so large that the benefits of reducing sulfur dioxide in PacifiCorp power plants are not sufficient to offset the nitrate contributions. Notice the lower sulfate concentrations occur over the entire 20 percent worst days while the high nitrate occurs only for a few days during the fall and winter. Using the data derived from this figure, **Table C-1** presents a quantification with the number of days: the Utah SIP is better than, equivalent to, and worse than the USAEPA FIP at the three national parks. The table indicates that the number of days in which the Utah SIP is worse than the USEPA FIP for all three parks is only 5 days (out of 24-25 worst days), which implies that for the vast majority of the time the Utah SIP is better or equivalent to the USEPA FIP, but a few days of high nitrate during the winter skew the average visibility improvements resulting in positive values for the differences presented in **Table 4-3**.

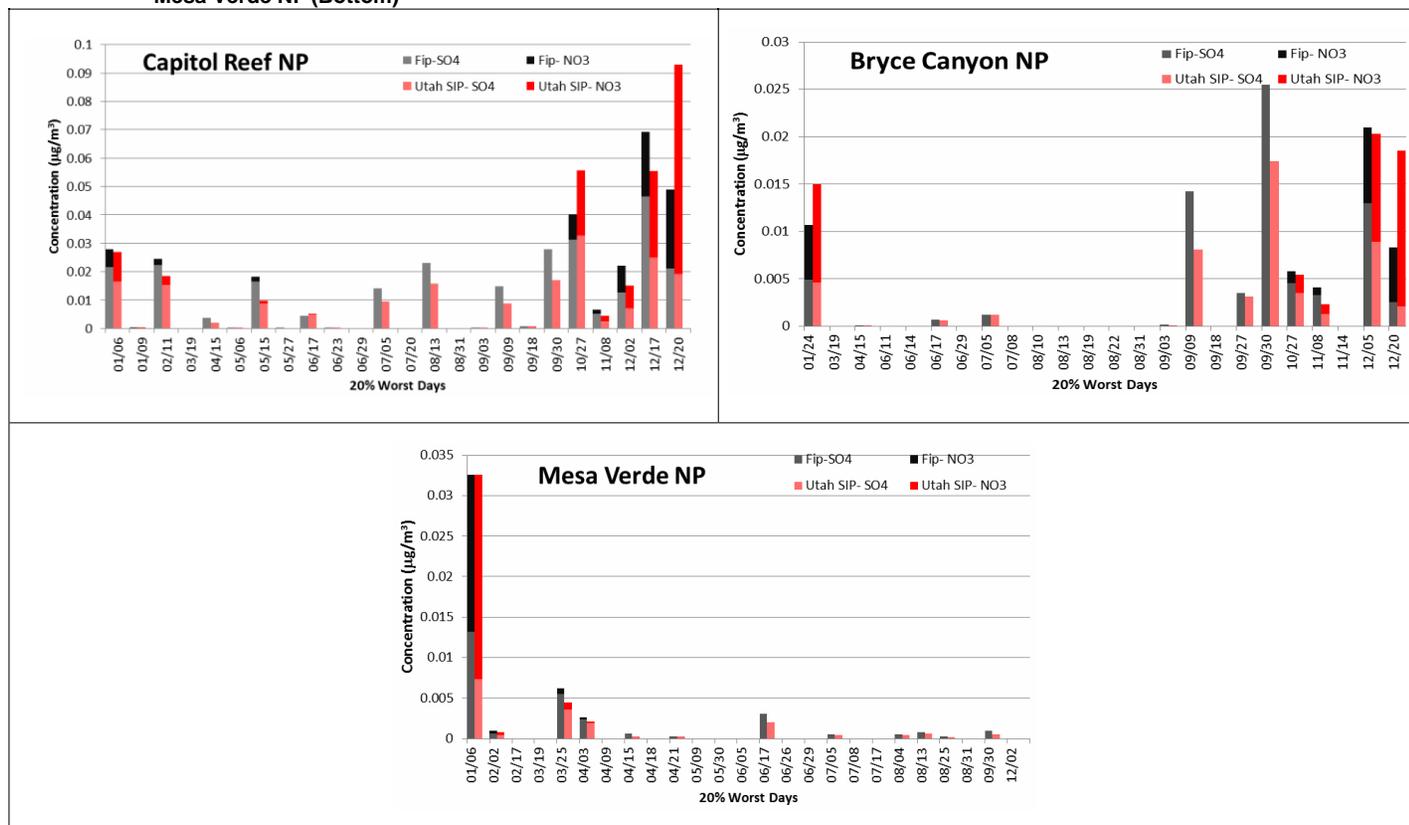
**Table C-2: Number of Days for 20 Percent Worst Days at Select Sites**

Class I area	Number of Days			
	Utah SIP better than FIP (UT SIP – FIP) < 0	Utah SIP equal to FIP (UT SIP – FIP) = 0	FIP better than Utah SIP (UT SIP – FIP) > 0	Total days in 20% worst period
Capitol Reef NP	14	7	3	24
Bryce Canyon NP	8	14	2	24
Mesa Verde NP	11	14	0	25

**Figure C-3: Sulfate (top) and Nitrate (Bottom) daily average concentrations comparison between the USEPA FIP and Utah FIP during the 20 percent worst days at Capitol Reef NP.**



**Figure C-4: Bar Charts of 20 Percent Worst Days for Sulfate and Nitrate at Capitol Reef NP (Top Right), Bryce Canyon NP (Top Left), and Mesa Verde NP (Bottom)**



## Appendix D Additional Visibility Assessments performed with SMAT-CE

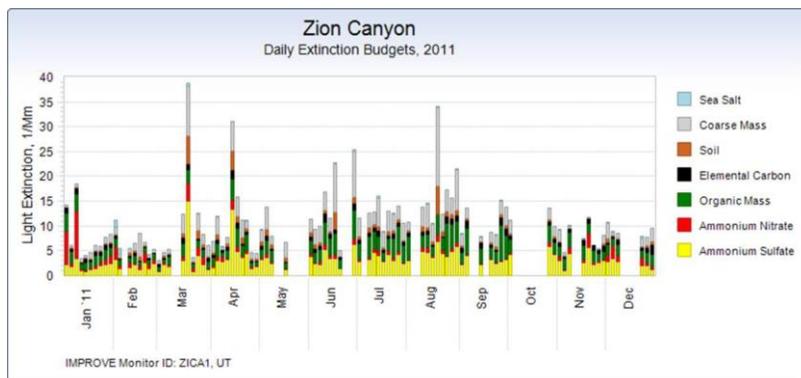
SMAT-CE modeling results presented in Section 4.3 were obtained using the five-year averaging period of 2009 to 2013 with a base year of 2011. This appendix provides additional visibility estimates using SMAT-CE configured to consider two different averaging periods: 2007 to 2011 and 2011 to 2015, with base model years of 2009 and 2013, respectively. These additional analyses provide values for Zion NP when the monitoring data satisfies the 75% data completeness. Since the set of days that correspond to the 20 percent best and worst visibility depends on monitoring data, using different base years allows us to probe the future-year modeling and observe if these additional results lead to the same conclusion detailed in Chapter 4. The period 2007 to 2011 was selected since that is the first period prior to 2011 in which the monitoring data at Zion NP is complete. The period 2011 to 2015 was selected as it encompasses the most recent IMPROVE monitoring data available in SMAT-CE.

As part of the analysis we confirmed that the IMPROVE monitoring data at Zion NP during 2011 is missing data. **Figure D-1** presents the reconstructed daily extinctions for 2011 at Zion NP, which are used in the SMAT-CE calculations. This figure confirms that Zion NP 2011 observations did not satisfy SMAT-CE 75 percent data completeness requirement, since there are missing values for 30 days. While January is complete, there are numerous days of missing data from October to December.

**Table D-1** presents the SMAT-CE settings used for both the 2009 and 2013 analyses. These settings are identical to the ones used for base year 2011 with the only differences in the start, end, and base model year. **Tables D-2** and **D-3** show the contribution to visibility on the 20 percent best and worst days due to PacifiCorp's power plants in Utah for the base year 2009. The results indicate that the Utah SIP scenario will not cause degradation of visibility relative to the Baseline at any of the analyzed Class I areas during either the 20 percent best or 20 percent worst visibility days. Furthermore, modeling results show that, on average, visibility improvement at the analyzed Class I areas is greater for the Utah SIP than for the USEPA FIP scenario during both the 20 percent best and worst visibility days for both the 20 percent best and worst days.

**Tables D-4** and **D-5** show the contribution to visibility on the 20 percent best and worst days due to PacifiCorp's power plants in Utah for the base year 2013. Notice that for this analysis that one area, San Pedro Parks WA, now does not meet the 75 percent completion criteria. The results in these tables indicate that the Utah SIP scenario will not cause degradation of visibility relative to the Baseline at any of the analyzed Class I areas during either the 20 percent best or 20 percent worst visibility days. Furthermore, modeling results show that, on average, visibility improvement at the analyzed Class I areas is greater for the Utah SIP than for the USEPA FIP scenario during both the 20 percent best and worst visibility days for both the 20 percent best and worst days. This analysis also illustrates that the areas that individually do not show better improvement relative to the USEPA FIP can change depending on the base year, for instance for the 2013 base year Capitol Reef NP now shows a negative difference in column E for both best and worst days, which contrasts with the base results in 2011 (**Appendix C**). That is, for 2013 at Capitol Reef NP, the 2013 results indicated that the Utah SIP will lead to better visibility improvements.

Figure D-2: 2011 Daily Extinctions at Zion NP. Source: <http://views.cira.colostate.edu/fed/>



**Table D-6: SMAT-CE Configuration Settings**

Option	Main category	Setting	Default	2009	2013
Desired Output	Scenario Name	Name			
	Forecast	Temporally-adjust visibility levels at class 1 area	Yes	Yes	Yes
		Improve algorithm	use new version	use new version	use new version
		Use model grid cells at monitors	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Use model grid cells at class 1 area centroid	No	No	No	
Actions on run completion	Automatically extract all selected output files	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Data Input	Monitor data	File name	Classlareas_NE WIMPROVEALG_2000to2015_2017feb13_TOTAL.csv	Classlareas_NE WIMPROVEALG_2000to2015_2017april27_TO TAL.csv	Classlareas_NE WIMPROVEALG_2000to2015_2017april27_TO TAL.csv
	Model data	Baseline file	SMAT.PM.Large.12.SE_US2.2011.eh.camx.grid.csv	Typical Year 2011 4-km model results	Typical Year 2011 4-km model results
		Forecast file	SMAT.PM.Large.12.SE_US2.2017.eh.camx.grid.csv	Future-year 2025 4-km model results	Future-year 2025 4-km model results
	Using model data	Temporal adjustment at monitor	3x3	3x3	3x3
Filtering	Choose visibility data years	Start monitor year	2009	2007 <sup>1</sup>	2011 <sup>2</sup>
		End monitor year	2013	2011 <sup>1</sup>	2015 <sup>2</sup>
		Base model year	2011	2009 <sup>1</sup>	2013 <sup>2</sup>
	Valid visibility monitors	Minimum years required for valid monitor	3	3	3

<sup>1</sup> The values for the Start, End and Base model years are set to reflect a base year centered on the Typical Year (2009) and to perform the current design value calculation with the 5-year period surrounding this year (2007 to 2011).

<sup>2</sup> The values for the Start, End and Base model years are set to reflect a base year centered on the Typical Year (2013) and to perform the current design value calculation with the 5-year period surrounding this year (2011 to 2015).

**Table D-7: Visibility Impacts for the Baseline, USEPA FIP and Utah SIP Scenarios on the 20 Percent Best Days using 2009 SMAT-CE Results**

Class I Area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] USEPA FIP (dv)	[C] Utah SIP (dv)	[D] Utah SIP - Baseline	[E] Utah SIP - USEPA FIP
Arches NP*	0.07694	0.04525	0.03317	-0.0438	-0.01208
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM*	0.02683	0.01322	0.01290	-0.0139	-0.00032
Bryce Canyon NP	0.02400	0.01152	0.01094	-0.0131	-0.00058
Canyonlands NP	0.07694	0.04525	0.03317	-0.0438	-0.01208
Capitol Reef NP	0.04612	0.02654	0.02384	-0.0223	-0.00270
Flat Tops WA*	0.04409	0.02275	0.01887	-0.0252	-0.00388
Grand Canyon NP	0.03234	0.01608	0.01346	-0.0189	-0.00262
La Garita WA*	0.02683	0.01322	0.01290	-0.0139	-0.00032
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA*	0.04409	0.02275	0.01887	-0.0252	-0.00388
Mesa Verde NP	0.03437	0.01868	0.01433	-0.0200	-0.00435
Mount Zirkel WA	0.05659	0.03089	0.02096	-0.0356	-0.00993
San Pedro Parks WA	0.03156	0.01546	0.01358	-0.0180	-0.00188
Weminuche WA	0.02683	0.01322	0.01290	-0.0139	-0.00032
West Elk WA*	0.04409	0.02275	0.01887	-0.0252	-0.00388
Zion NP	0.01423	0.00650	0.00614	-0.0081	-0.00036
<b>All Class I Area Average</b>	<b>0.04039</b>	<b>0.02161</b>	<b>0.01766</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00395</b>

**Table D-8: Visibility Impacts for the Baseline, USEPA FIP and Utah SIP Scenarios on the 20 Percent Worst Days using 2009 SMAT-CE Results**

Class I area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] USEPA FIP (dv)	[C] Utah SIP (dv)	[D] Utah SIP - Baseline	[E] Utah SIP - USEPA FIP
Arches NP	0.19360	0.10494	0.07654	-0.117	-0.02840
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.03798	0.02101	0.01760	-0.020	-0.00341
Bryce Canyon NP	0.00838	0.00416	0.00346	-0.005	-0.00070
Canyonlands NP	0.19360	0.10494	0.07654	-0.117	-0.02840
Capitol Reef NP	0.18456	0.10778	0.11326	-0.071	0.00548
Flat Tops WA	0.09688	0.05012	0.04572	-0.051	-0.00440
Grand Canyon NP	0.03661	0.01854	0.02033	-0.016	0.00179
La Garita WA	0.03798	0.02101	0.01760	-0.020	-0.00341
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.09688	0.05012	0.04572	-0.051	-0.00440
Mesa Verde NP	0.10428	0.04996	0.04639	-0.058	-0.00357
Mount Zirkel WA	0.10579	0.05116	0.04496	-0.061	-0.00620
San Pedro Parks WA	0.02453	0.01256	0.00936	-0.015	-0.00320
Weminuche WA	0.03798	0.02101	0.01760	-0.020	-0.00341
West Elk WA	0.09688	0.05012	0.04572	-0.051	-0.00440
Zion NP	0.01113	0.00546	0.00477	-0.006	-0.00069
<b>All Class I Area Average</b>	<b>0.08447</b>	<b>0.04486</b>	<b>0.03904</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00582</b>

**Table D-9: Visibility Impacts for the Baseline, USEPA FIP and Utah SIP Scenarios on the 20 Percent Best Days using 2013 SMAT-CE Results**

Class I area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] USEPA FIP (dv)	[C] Utah SIP (dv)	[D] Utah SIP - Baseline	[E] Utah SIP - USEPA FIP
Arches NP	0.05339	0.03211	0.02089	-0.0325	-0.01122
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.03774	0.02039	0.01638	-0.0214	-0.00401
Bryce Canyon NP	0.01961	0.00921	0.00903	-0.0106	-0.00018
Canyonlands NP	0.05339	0.03211	0.02089	-0.0325	-0.01122
Capitol Reef NP	0.08181	0.04297	0.04469	-0.0371	0.00172
Flat Tops WA	0.04829	0.02489	0.02187	-0.0264	-0.00302
Grand Canyon NP	0.02088	0.01066	0.00907	-0.0118	-0.00159
La Garita WA	0.03774	0.02039	0.01638	-0.0214	-0.00401
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.04829	0.02489	0.02187	-0.0264	-0.00302
Mesa Verde NP	0.04406	0.02278	0.01884	-0.0252	-0.00394
Mount Zirkel WA	0.04886	0.02804	0.01645	-0.0324	-0.01159
San Pedro Parks WA*					
Weminuche WA	0.03774	0.02039	0.01638	-0.0214	-0.00401
West Elk WA	0.04829	0.02489	0.02187	-0.0264	-0.00302
Zion NP	0.01099	0.00502	0.00451	-0.0065	-0.00051
<b>All Class I Area Average</b>	<b>0.04222</b>	<b>0.02277</b>	<b>0.01851</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00426</b>

**Table D-10: 2013 Visibility Impacts for the Baseline, USEPA FIP and Utah SIP Scenarios on the 20 Percent Worst Days using 2013 SMAT-CE Results**

Class I Area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] USEPA FIP (dv)	[C] Utah SIP (dv)	[D] Utah SIP - Baseline	[E] Utah SIP - USEPA FIP
Arches NP	0.25117	0.14623	0.10929	-0.142	-0.03694
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.05094	0.03291	0.03605	-0.015	0.00314
Bryce Canyon NP	0.00870	0.00451	0.00414	-0.005	-0.00037
Canyonlands NP	0.25117	0.14623	0.10929	-0.142	-0.03694
Capitol Reef NP	0.11773	0.05939	0.05859	-0.059	-0.00080
Flat Tops WA	0.09512	0.04680	0.04168	-0.053	-0.00512
Grand Canyon NP	0.01472	0.00707	0.00589	-0.009	-0.00118
La Garita WA	0.05094	0.03291	0.03605	-0.015	0.00314
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.09512	0.04680	0.04168	-0.053	-0.00512
Mesa Verde NP	0.10341	0.03640	0.04178	-0.062	0.00538
Mount Zirkel WA	0.07734	0.03733	0.02850	-0.049	-0.00883
San Pedro Parks WA*					
Weminuche WA	0.05094	0.03291	0.03605	-0.015	0.00314
West Elk WA	0.09512	0.04680	0.04168	-0.053	-0.00512
Zion NP	0.00395	0.00191	0.00145	-0.002	-0.00046
<b>All Class I Area Average</b>	<b>0.09046</b>	<b>0.04844</b>	<b>0.04229</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00615</b>

# **ATTACHMENT**

**C**

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Utah State Implementation Plan  
Section XX  
Regional Haze

Addressing Regional Haze Visibility Protection for the Mandatory Federal Class I Areas  
Required Under 40 CFR 51.308 and 309

Adopted by the Air Quality Board

June 5, 2019

1 **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

2 This document comprises the State of Utah's State Implementation Plan (SIP) submittal to  
 3 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Regional Haze Rule in Sections  
 4 308 and 309 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 51 (40 CFR 51.308 and  
 5 309). Part B includes introductory and background information. The remaining parts  
 6 identify the SIP requirements under Sections 308 and 309 and detail how Utah is addressing  
 7 those requirements, and appendices include more detail about certain parts. Table 1 is a brief  
 8 summary of each of the 308 and 309 SIP requirements along with Utah's approach in  
 9 addressing those requirements.

10 **Table 1 - Executive Summary of Long-Term Strategies**

Clean Air Corridors <i>309(d)(3)</i>	Part C documents that emission growth inside and outside of the Clean Air Corridor is not shown to be contributing currently to impairment within the Clean Air Corridor.
Stationary Sources <i>308(e) and 309(d)(4)</i>	Part D includes proof of a 13% reduction in sulfur dioxide emissions between 1990 and 2000, Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Alternative for NO <sub>x</sub> and PM, geographic enhancement provisions, and other stationary source materials.
Sulfur Dioxide Milestones and Backstop Trading Program <i>309(d)(4)</i>	Part E includes milestones for sulfur dioxide emissions along with a backstop market cap and trade program for sulfur dioxide emissions from specific sources.
Mobile Sources <i>309(d)(5)</i>	Part F demonstrates that federal programs (such as low sulfur diesel, vehicle emission standards, etc.) lead to decreasing mobile source emissions throughout the planning period.
Programs Related to Fire <i>309(d)(6)</i>	Part G demonstrates that Utah has developed a smoke management regulation (R307-204) that implements the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) <i>Enhanced Smoke Management Programs for Visibility Policy</i> .
Paved and Unpaved Road Dust <i>309(d)(7)</i>	Part H discusses the WRAP finding that dust emissions are not now a significant regional contributor to visibility impairment within the Colorado Plateau 16 Class I areas.

Pollution Prevention <i>309(d)(8)</i>	Part I describes programs and policies within Utah related to renewable energy and energy efficiency. Utah's anticipated contribution to the pollution prevention goals is outlined.
Additional Recommendations <i>309(d)(9)</i>	Part J summarizes that Utah has not identified any other recommendations in the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission Report to implement in Utah at this time. A report on each recommendation is included in the Utah Technical Support Document Supplement.
Projection of Visibility Improvement <i>309(d)(2)</i>	Part K projects visibility improvement for the 20% best and worst days for each of the Class I areas on the Colorado Plateau (Arches, Bryce, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, and Zion National Parks in Utah and the other 11 Class I areas in adjacent states that were addressed by the Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission)
Periodic Revisions <i>309(d)(10)</i>	Part L commits the State of Utah to submit periodic revisions to this SIP every five years.
State Planning and Interstate Coordination <i>309(d)(11)</i>	Part M describes Utah's participation in the Western Regional Air Partnership.
Reasonable Progress for Additional Class I Areas <i>309(g)</i>	Utah has no additional Class I areas.

1

2 **Technical Support Documents**

3 Accompanying this implementation plan and associated appendices are other supporting  
4 documents. The first is a Technical Support Document (TSD) developed by the Western  
5 Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) that contains the results of numerous collaborative  
6 studies by the WRAP members on which the State of Utah relied in the development of the  
7 2003 SIP. In the implementation plan, this is referred to as the “WRAP TSD.” The WRAP  
8 TSD also includes appendices. In addition, there are other supplemental materials that are  
9 state-specific technical support information, including ~~[staff reviews]~~the 2019 Staff Review  
10 of Recommended Alternative to BART for NO<sub>x</sub> and modeling information. In the  
11 implementation plan, these are referred to as the “Utah TSD Supplement.”

1 In 2008, the Regional Haze SIP was updated to address changes in the regional haze rule  
2 and EPA’s BART Guidelines. The WRAP developed a new TSD, a Technical Support  
3 System (TSS) that contains the results of updated modeling, and an Emission Data  
4 Management System (EDMS). In the implementation plan these combined materials are  
5 referred to as the 2008 WRAP TSD and updated state-specific materials are referred to as  
6 the 2008 Utah TSD supplement.

7 In 2011 the SO<sub>2</sub> milestones in Part E of the SIP were revised to address a reduced number of  
8 states participating in the regional backstop trading program, and changes in growth  
9 projections for electric utilities in the west.

10

## 11 **B. BACKGROUND ON THE REGIONAL HAZE RULE**

12 [No revisions]

## 13 **C. LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR THE CLEAN-AIR CORRIDOR**

14 [No revisions]

1 **D. LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR STATIONARY SOURCES**

2 **1. Regulatory History and Requirements**

3 **2. Achievement of a 13% or Greater Reduction of Sulfur Dioxide**  
4 **Emissions by 2000**

5 **3. Strategy for Stationary Sources of Sulfur Dioxide**

6 **4. Geographic Enhancement Program**

7 **5. Report on Assessment of NO<sub>x</sub>/PM Strategies**

8 **6. Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Assessment for NO<sub>x</sub>**  
9 **and PM**

10 **a. Regional Haze Rule BART Requirements**

11 Pursuant to 40 CFR 51.308(e) and 40 CFR 51.309(d)(4)(vii), certain major stationary sources are  
12 required to evaluate, install, operate and maintain BART technology or an approved BART  
13 alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM emissions. The State of Utah has chosen to evaluate BART for PM  
14 under the case-by-case provisions of 40 CFR 51.308(e)(1) and BART for NO<sub>x</sub> through alternative  
15 measures under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2) and (3). BART for SO<sub>2</sub> is addressed through an alternative  
16 program under 40 CFR 51.309 that is described in Part E of this plan.

17 **b. BART for Particulate Matter**

18 [No revisions]

19 **c. BART for NO<sub>x</sub>**

20 BART for NO<sub>x</sub> is addressed through alternative measures as provided under 40 CFR  
21 51.308(e)(2). The following emission reduction measures, which include both BART and non-  
22 BART sources, are required, and are made enforceable through emission limits established in  
23 Section IX, Part H.21 and H.22 of the State Implementation Plan.

- 24 • PacifiCorp Hunter Units 1 and 2 and Huntington Units 1 and 2: The replacement of first  
25 generation low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with Alstom TSF 2000TM low-NO<sub>x</sub> firing system and  
26 installation of two elevations of separated overfire air with an emission limit of 0.26  
27 lb/MMBtu on a 30-day rolling average.
- 28 • PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 3 (not subject-to-BART): The replacement of first generation low-  
29 NO<sub>x</sub> burners with improved low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air with an emission limit of  
30 0.34 lb/MMBtu on a 30-day rolling average.

- PacifiCorp Carbon Units 1 and 2 (not subject-to-BART): PacifiCorp shall permanently retire Carbon Units 1 and 2 by August 15, 2015.

40 CFR 51.308(e)(2) requires an analysis to demonstrate that the alternative measures achieve greater reasonable progress than would be achieved through the installation and operation of BART. This demonstration, as well as other demonstrations and information required under 51.308(e)(2), is included in the TSD.<sup>1</sup> Combined emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub> will be 1,879 tons/yr lower under the alternative than the most-stringent BART scenario for NO<sub>x</sub>. Dispersion modeling and related analysis done according to 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3), demonstrates that the alternative achieves “greater reasonable progress” by meeting both of the following two prongs: (i) visibility does not decline in any Class I area, and (ii) there is an overall improvement in visibility, determined by comparing the average differences between BART and the alternative over all affected Class I areas.

**d. BART Summary**

The BART emission limits for SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and PM are summarized in Table 5. While Utah has chosen to meet the NO<sub>x</sub> BART requirement through alternative measures established in Section XX Part D.6 of the SIP, and the SO<sub>2</sub> BART requirement through an alternative to BART program established in Section XX Part E of the SIP, the enforceable emission limits for both NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> established in the approval orders and in the SIP for the four EGUs also meet the presumptive emission [rates]limits for both NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> established in Appendix Y Guidelines for BART Determinations under the Regional Haze Rule<sup>2</sup> independently of the alternative programs.

**Table 2 – 30-day Rolling Average Emission Limits for the Retrofitted Hunter and Huntington Units**

Units	Utah Permitted Limits		
	SO <sub>2</sub> lb/MMBtu	NO <sub>x</sub> lb/MMBtu	PM lb/MMBtu
Hunter 1	0.12	0.26	0.015
Hunter 2	0.12	0.26	0.015
Hunter 3		0.34	
Huntington 1	0.12	0.26	0.015
Huntington 2	0.12	0.26	0.015

**e. Schedule for Installation of Controls**

Pursuant to 51.308(e)(1)(C)(iv) each source subject to BART is required to install and operate BART no later than 5 years after approval of the implementation plan, and pursuant to

<sup>1</sup> Staff Review of Recommended Alternative to BART for NO<sub>x</sub>, January 14, 2019

<sup>2</sup> 40 CFR Part 51 Appendix Y Guidelines for BART Determinations under the Regional Haze Rule (70 Federal Register 39135)

1 51.308(e)(2)(E)(3) all emission reductions necessary for a BART alternative [~~measures~~] must  
 2 take place within the first planning period. Table 6 shows that the required schedule has been met  
 3 for all units.

4 **Table 3 - Installation Schedule**

Source	Notice of Intent Submitted	Permit Issued	In Service Date
Hunter 1	June 2006	March 2008	Spring 2014
Hunter 2	June 2006	March 2008	Spring 2011
Hunter 3			Summer 2008
Huntington 1	April 2008	August 2009	Fall 2010
Huntington 2	October 2004	April 2005	Dec 2006
Carbon 1			Shut down August 2015
Carbon 2			Shut down August 2015

5 Utah’s long-standing Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permitting program (SIP  
 6 Section VII and R307-405), New Source Review permitting program (SIP Section II and R307-  
 7 401) and Visibility program (SIP section XVII and R307-406) will continue to protect Class I  
 8 area visibility by ensuring that the BART emission limits established in Part H.21 and H.22 of  
 9 this plan are maintained, requiring best available control technology for new sources, and  
 10 assuring that there is not a significant degradation in visibility at Class I areas due to new or  
 11 modified major sources.

1 **E. SULFUR DIOXIDE MILESTONES AND BACKSTOP TRADING**  
2 **PROGRAM**

3 [No revisions]

4 **F. LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR MOBILE SOURCES**

5 [No revisions]

6 **G. LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR FIRE PROGRAMS**

7 [No revisions]

8 **H. ASSESSMENT OF EMISSIONS FROM PAVED AND UNPAVED ROAD**  
9 **DUST**

10 [No revisions]

11 **I. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMS**

12 [No revisions]

13 **J. OTHER GCVTC RECOMMENDATIONS**

14 [No revisions]

15 **K. PROJECTION OF VISIBILITY IMPROVEMENT ANTICIPATED FROM**  
16 **LONG-TERM STRATEGY**

17 [No revisions]

18 **L. PERIODIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN REVISIONS**

19 [No revisions]

20 **M. STATE PLANNING/INTERSTATE COORDINATION AND TRIBAL**  
21 **IMPLEMENTATION**

22 [No revisions]

23 **N. ENFORCEABLE COMMITMENTS FOR THE UTAH REGIONAL HAZE**  
24 **SIP**

25 [No revisions]

# **ATTACHMENT**

**D**

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Staff Review of  
Recommended Alternative to BART for  
NO<sub>x</sub>

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*Utah Division of Air Quality*

*[January 14] May 28, 2019*

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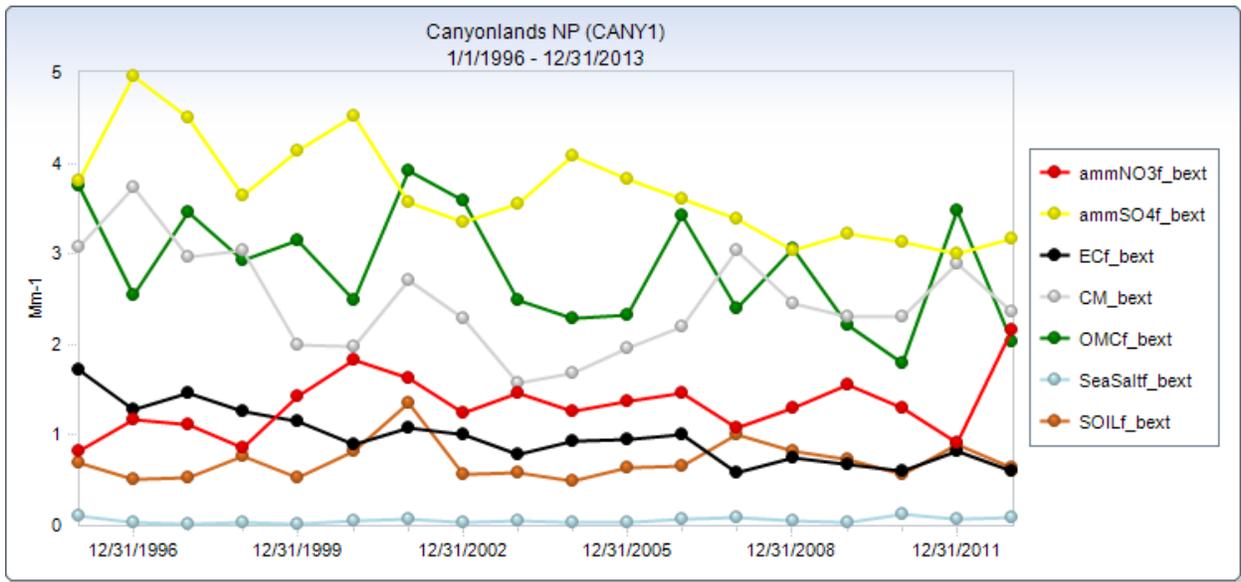
## 1 Purpose

2 On December 14, 2012, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) disapproved the Best  
3 Available Retrofit Technology (BART) determination for nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and particulate  
4 matter (PM) that was adopted in Utah's ~~[2008]~~ Regional Haze State Implementation Plans (RH  
5 SIP) submitted in 2008 and resubmitted in 2011. On June 4, 2015, Utah submitted PM BART  
6 and BART alternative for NO<sub>x</sub>. EPA approved the BART for PM on July 5, 2016 but disapproved  
7 the BART alternative for NO<sub>x</sub>. The purpose of this analysis is to provide ~~[additional~~  
8 ~~documentation and support to]~~ technical analysis to support the BART alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> and  
9 to demonstrate that the alternative will provide greater ~~[visibility improvement]~~ reasonable  
10 progress by meeting the 2-prong test prescribed in Section 51.308(e)(3) than would be achieved  
11 through the installation of the most stringent NO<sub>x</sub> controls on the four electrical generating  
12 units (EGU) that are subject to BART.

## 13 History

14 Utah's RH SIP, originally adopted in 2003, was based on the recommendations of the Grand  
15 Canyon Visibility Transport Commission (GCVTC). The GCVTC evaluated haze at Class I areas  
16 on the Colorado Plateau, and determined that stationary source reductions should be focused on  
17 sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) because it is the pollutant that has the most significant impact on haze on  
18 the Colorado Plateau. Utah's ~~20[08]~~11 BART determination was developed within the context of  
19 the overall SIP and reflected this focus on SO<sub>2</sub>. Figure 1 shows the contributions of various  
20 species to visibility impairment at Canyonlands National Park. As can be seen, sulfate  
21 (ammSO<sub>4</sub>) is the most significant contributor to haze. Fire (OMC) and dust (CM) are also  
22 significant components, but their impact is variable from year to year.

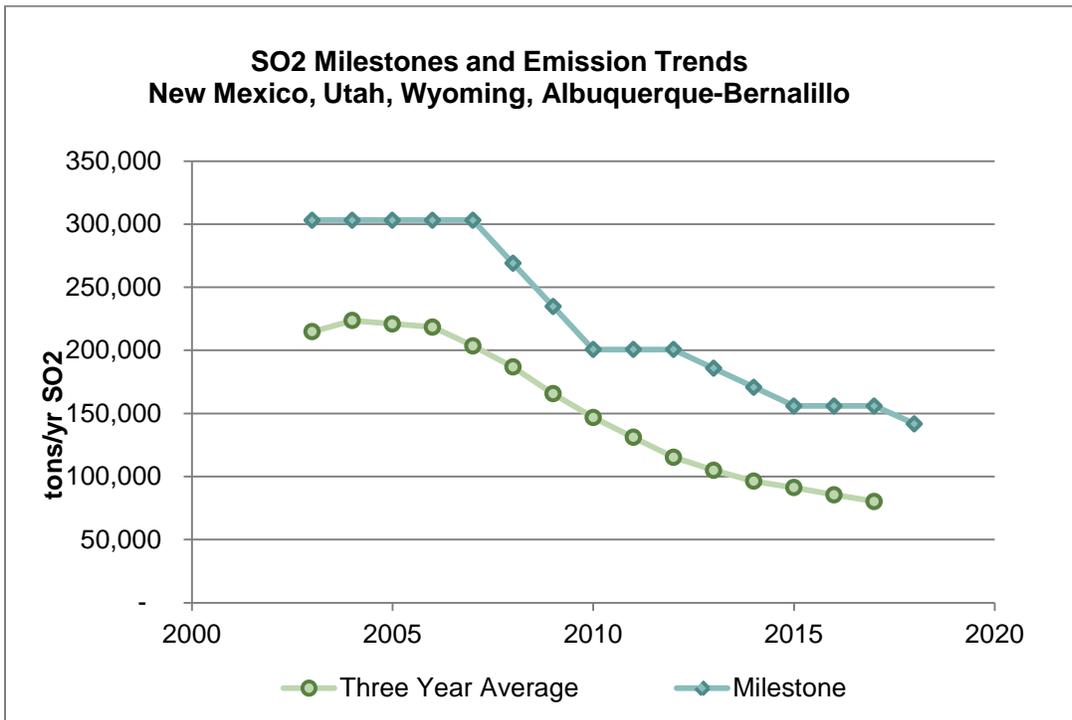
1 **Figure 1 Speciated Annual Average Light Extinction at Canyonlands**



2

3 Utah's 2003 RH SIP included SO<sub>2</sub> emission milestones with a backstop regulatory trading  
 4 program to ensure that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the transport region decreased substantially between  
 5 2003 and 2018. The milestones were adjusted in 2008 and 2011 to reflect changes in the  
 6 number of states participating in the regional program. In the current three-state region, actual  
 7 SO<sub>2</sub> emissions decreased by 64% between 2003 and 2017. In 2017, emissions were significantly  
 8 below the 2018 milestone in Utah's RH SIP (See Figure 2).

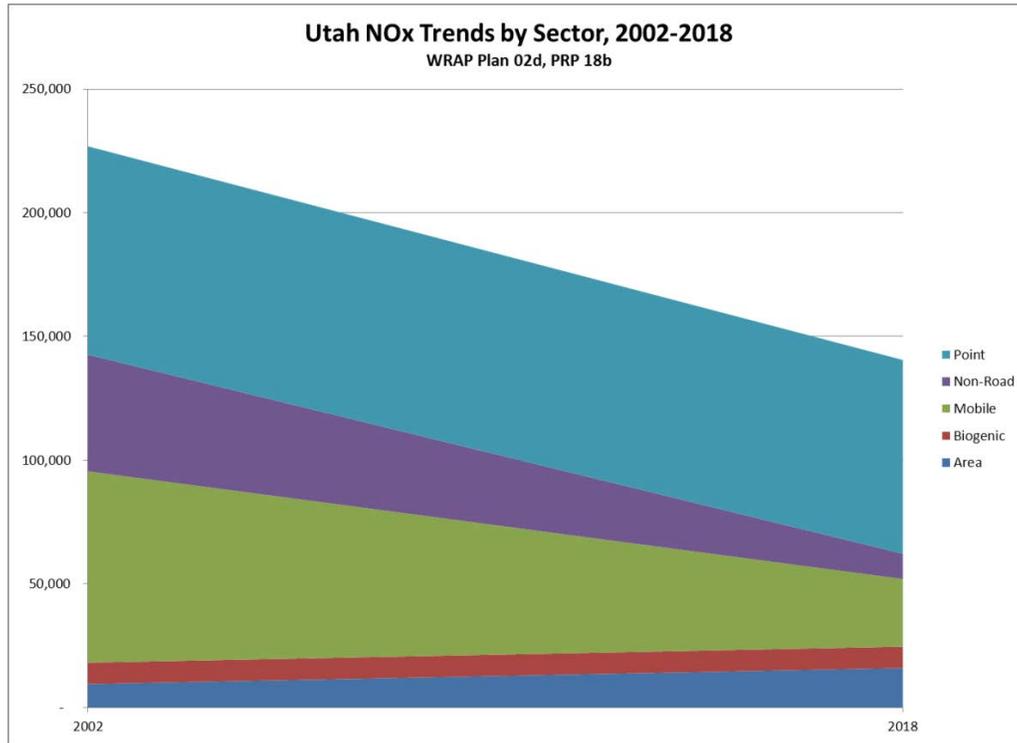
9 **Figure 2 SO2 Milestones and Emission Trends**



10

1 While Utah's RH SIP is focused on achieving SO<sub>2</sub> reductions from stationary sources,  
2 substantial reductions in nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions will also occur from stationary sources  
3 as well as mobile and non-road sources. Figure 3 shows the projected decrease in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions  
4 between 2002 and 2018 as documented in Section K of Utah's 2008 RH SIP.<sup>1</sup>

5 **Figure 3 Utah RH SIP Expected NO<sub>x</sub> Reductions 2002-2018**



6

### 7 **BART Determination in 2008 RH SIP**

8 On September 3, 2008, the Utah Air Quality Board adopted a revision to Utah's RH SIP to  
9 include Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) requirements for NO<sub>x</sub> and particulate matter  
10 (PM) as required by 40 CFR 51.309(d)(4)(vii). PacifiCorp's Hunter Unit 1, Hunter Unit 2,  
11 Huntington Unit 1, and Huntington Unit 2 fossil fuel fired electric generating units (EGUs) were  
12 determined to be subject to BART. The 2008 RH SIP required PacifiCorp to install the following  
13 BART controls at these EGUs:

#### 14 **Hunter Units 1 and 2:**

- 15 • Conversion of electrostatic precipitators to pulse jet fabric filter bag-houses.
- 16 • The replacement of first generation low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with Alstom TSF 2000TM low-  
17 NO<sub>x</sub> firing system and installation of two elevations of separated overfire air.
- 18 • Upgrade of flue gas desulfurization system to > 90% sulfur dioxide removal.

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<sup>1</sup> WRAP Plan 02d and PRP 18b inventory (PRP 18a mobile)  
<http://vista.cira.colostate.edu/TSS/Results/Emissions.aspx>

1

2 **Huntington Units 1 and 2:**

- 3 • Conversion of electrostatic precipitators to pulse jet fabric filter bag-houses.
- 4 • The replacement of first generation low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with Alstom TSF 2000TM low-
- 5 NO<sub>x</sub> firing system and installation of two elevations of separated overfire air.
- 6 • Installation of a new wet-lime, flue gas de-sulfurization system at Unit 2 (FGD).
- 7 • Upgrade of flue gas desulfurization system to > 90% sulfur dioxide removal at Unit 1.

8 The emission ~~[rates]~~limits established in the 2008 RH SIP for Hunter Units 1 and 2 and  
 9 Huntington Units 1 and 2 were more stringent than the presumptive BART emission rates for  
 10 SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> established in 40 CFR Part 51 Appendix Y, Guidelines for BART Determinations  
 11 under the Regional Haze Rule as shown in Table 1.

12 **Table 1 BART Emission ~~[Rates]~~Limits in Utah's 2008 SIP**

Units	Utah Permitted <del>[Rates]</del> <u>Limits</u> <sup>2</sup> (lb/MMBtu)			Presumptive BART Limits <sup>3</sup> (lb/MMBtu)		Year of Installation
	SO <sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>	NO <sub>x</sub> <sup>a</sup>	PM	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	
Hunter 1	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28	2014
Hunter 2	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28	2011
Huntington 1	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28	2010
Huntington 2	0.12	0.26	0.015	0.15	0.28	2006

13 <sup>a</sup>30-day rolling average

14 **Partial Approval, Partial Disapproval of Utah’s Regional Haze SIP**

15 On December 14, 2012, EPA approved the majority of Utah’s Regional Haze SIP submittals but  
 16 disapproved Utah’s BART determinations for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM for PacifiCorp’s Hunter Unit 1,  
 17 Hunter Unit 2, Huntington Unit 1, and Huntington Unit 2<sup>4</sup>. EPA determined that the SIP did  
 18 not comply with regulations under 40 C.F.R. 51.308(e)(1) and did not contain the necessary  
 19 provisions to make BART limits practically enforceable as required by section 110(a)(2) of the  
 20 Clean Air Act and Appendix V to 40 C.F.R. Part 51.<sup>5</sup> The imposed controls themselves were not  
 21 disapproved by EPA; rather EPA disapproved the SIP submittal’s analysis of those controls and  
 22 BART. Prior to EPA’s disapproval, Utah’s BART determination was in place and enforceable  
 23 under state law and state permits. The required controls were installed and operating on three of

<sup>2</sup> Utah Division of Air Quality Approval Orders: Huntington Unit 2 - AN0238012-05, Huntington Unit 1 - DAQE-AN0102380019-09 (note – on January 19, 2010 an administrative amendment was made to the 2009 AO), Hunter Units I and 2 - DAQE-AN0102370012-08.

<sup>3</sup> 40 CFR Part 51 Appendix Y Regional Haze Regulations and Guidelines for Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Determinations, 70 Fed. Reg. 39104, 39135 (July 6, 2005).

<sup>4</sup> 77 Fed. Reg. 74,355 (Dec. 14, 2012).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 74,357.

1 the four EGUs prior to EPA’s proposed disapproval and were installed on the 4<sup>th</sup> EGU in 2014 as  
2 required ~~[by Utah’s SIP]~~ under state law.

3 On June 4, 2015, Utah re-proposed its SIP for PM BART and submitted a BART Alternative for  
4 NO<sub>x</sub> for the same PacifiCorp’s Electrical Generating Units.<sup>6</sup> On January 14, 2016, EPA issued a  
5 proposed rule containing a proposal to approve the PM BART and a co-proposal to either  
6 approve or disapprove the BART Alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> and to impose a FIP requiring BART for  
7 NO<sub>x</sub> in the event of the disapproval.<sup>7</sup> On July 5, 2016, EPA issued the final rule disapproving the  
8 BART alternative for NO<sub>x</sub> and approving the BART for PM portion of the June 4, 2015 SIP.<sup>8</sup> To  
9 replace the disapproved BART alternative, EPA promulgated a FIP, requiring installation of  
10 Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) controls on the subject EGUs by August of 2021.<sup>9</sup>

11 Utah filed a lawsuit against EPA challenging the July 5, 2016 disapproval of BART Alternative  
12 for NO<sub>x</sub> in the Tenth Circuit on September 1, 2106.<sup>10</sup> This litigation has been in abeyance since  
13 September 11, 2017, and the final rule requiring SCR installation is stayed.<sup>11</sup>

---

<sup>6</sup> 81 Fed. Reg. 43,894 (July 5, 2016).

<sup>7</sup> 81 Fed. Reg. 2,004, 2,007 (Jan. 14, 2016).

<sup>8</sup> 81 Fed. Reg. 43,894 (July 5, 2016).

<sup>9</sup> *Id.* at 43,907.

<sup>10</sup> *See Utah v. EPA*, No. 16-9541, Petition for Review (Sept. 1, 2016).

<sup>11</sup> *See id.*, Order (Sept. 11, 2017); *see also id.*, Order Filed by the Clerk of the Court (Dec. 11, 2018) (continuing to hold appeal in abeyance).

## 1 **Alternative to BART for NO<sub>x</sub>**

2 *40 CFR 51.308(e)(2) A State may opt to implement or require participation in*  
3 *an emissions trading program or other alternative measure rather than to*  
4 *require sources subject to BART to install, operate, and maintain BART. Such an*  
5 *emissions trading program or other alternative measure must achieve greater*  
6 *reasonable progress than would be achieved through the installation and*  
7 *operation of BART. For all such emission trading programs or other alternative*  
8 *measures, the State must submit an implementation plan containing the*  
9 *following plan elements and include documentation for all required analyses:*

10

11 Utah has opted to establish an alternative measure for NO<sub>x</sub> as provided in 40 CFR  
12 51.308(e)(2).<sup>12</sup> The alternative measure requires emissions limits on the subject to BART units  
13 described in Table 1. The emissions limits have been achieved through the installation of low-  
14 NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air with an emission limit more stringent than the presumptive BART  
15 emission limit at the four EGUs that are subject-to-BART, and additional reductions of visibility  
16 impairing pollutants from three EGUs that are not subject to BART: PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 3,  
17 PacifiCorp Carbon Unit 1, and PacifiCorp Carbon Unit 2. All controls required under the BART  
18 alternative have been accomplished. Specifically, the BART NO<sub>x</sub> alternative requires:

19 **PacifiCorp Hunter Units 1 and 2 and PacifiCorp Huntington Units 1 and**  
20 **2:** Emissions limits of 0.12 lb/MMBtu measured as a 30-day rolling average for SO<sub>2</sub> and  
21 0.26 lb/MMBtu measured as a 30-day rolling average for NO<sub>x</sub>. These limits were  
22 attained by requiring the replacement of first generation low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with Alstom  
23 TSF 2000TM low-NO<sub>x</sub> firing system and installation of two elevations of separated  
24 overfire air.

25 **PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 3** (not subject-to-BART): the replacement of first generation  
26 low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with upgraded low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air.

27 **PacifiCorp Carbon Units 1 and 2** (not subject-to-BART): permanent closure of both  
28 units by August 15, 2015 and rescission of the plant's operating permit by December 31,  
29 2015.

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<sup>12</sup> Greater reasonable progress can be demonstrated using one of three methods: (i) "greater emission reductions" than under BART; (ii) "conduct dispersion modeling" for the "worst and best 20 percent days" to "demonstrate 'greater reasonable progress;'" (40 C.F.R. §51.308(e)(3)); or (iii) "based on the clear weight of evidence" (40 C.F.R. §51.308(e)(2)(E)). As the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit recently observed, the state is free to choose one method or the other. *WildEarth Guardians v. E.P.A.*, 770 F.3d 919, 935-37 (10th Cir. 2014). The court characterized the former approaches as a "quantitative" and the later as "qualitative," and specifically sanctioned the use of qualitative factors under the clear weight of evidence. The State believes that the NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative would qualify under either the "dispersion modeling" or "weight of evidence" test, but has focused here on the "quantitative" approach using "dispersion modeling."

1 PacifiCorp shut down the Carbon Power Plant in 2015 due to the high cost of controlling  
2 mercury to meet the requirements of EPA's Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS). The  
3 MATS rule was finalized in 2011, well after the 2002 base year for Utah's RH SIP; therefore, any  
4 reductions required to meet the MATS rule may be considered as part of an alternative strategy  
5 under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iv). This plant is located about 30 miles northeast of the Huntington  
6 Plant and about 40 miles northeast of the Hunter Plant and its emissions impact the same  
7 general area as the Hunter and Huntington Plants. [~~Average SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the Carbon  
8 Plant in 2012-13 were 8,005 tons/yr, and average NO<sub>x</sub> emissions were 3,342 tons/yr. PacifiCorp  
9 and ultimately Utah rate payers must pay the cost to replace the electricity generated by this  
10 plant, but there will also be a visibility benefit due to the emission reductions. Overall emission  
11 reductions of SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> due to the closure of this plant and the other NO<sub>x</sub> controls installed  
12 on Hunter Units 1, 2, and 3, and Huntington Units 1 and 2, are greater than the NO<sub>x</sub> reductions  
13 that could be achieved by installing the most stringent NO<sub>x</sub> control, SCR, on the four subject to-  
14 BART EGUs and the emission reductions will occur close to the location of the Hunter and  
15 Huntington plants.]~~

16 While PacifiCorp had plans to shut down the Carbon Plant, the decision was not enforceable,  
17 and PacifiCorp could have chosen to meet the MATS requirements through other measures. An  
18 enforceable requirement in the RH SIP to permanently close the Carbon Plant as part of an  
19 alternative to BART locks in substantial emission reductions.

## 1 **BART-eligible Sources Covered by Alternative Measure for NOx**

2 *40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(i)(A) A list of all BART-eligible sources within the state.*  
3 *40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(i)(B) A list of all BART-eligible sources and all BART*  
4 *source categories covered by the alternative program. The state is not required*  
5 *to include every BART source category or every BART-eligible source with a*  
6 *BART source category in an alternative program, but each BART-eligible*  
7 *source in the state must be subject to the requirements of the alternative*  
8 *program, have a federally enforceable emission limitation determined by the*  
9 *state and approved by EPA as meeting BART in accordance with section 302(c)*  
10 *or paragraph (e)(1) of this section, or otherwise addressed under paragraphs*  
11 *(e)(1) or (e)(4) of this section.*

12 Four EGUs were the only BART-eligible sources identified in Utah’s 2008 RH SIP. All four of  
13 these EGUs are covered by the alternative program.

- 14 • PacifiCorp Hunter, Unit 1
- 15 • PacifiCorp Hunter, Unit 2
- 16 • PacifiCorp Huntington, Unit 1
- 17 • PacifiCorp Huntington, Unit 2

18 The Alternative Measure also includes “non-BART sources” (i.e., Carbon Unit 1 and Unit 2 (PM,  
19 NOx and SO<sub>2</sub>) and Hunter Unit 3 (NOx)).

## 1 NOx emission reductions achievable

2 *40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(i)(C) An analysis of the best system of continuous emission*  
3 *control technology available and associated emission reductions achievable for*  
4 *each source within the state subject to BART and covered by the alternative*  
5 *program. This analysis must be conducted by making a determination of BART*  
6 *for each source subject to BART and covered by the alternative program as*  
7 *provided for in paragraph (e)(1) of this section, unless the emissions trading*  
8 *program or other alternative measure has been designed to meet a requirement*  
9 *other than BART (such as the core requirement to have a long-term strategy to*  
10 *achieve the reasonable progress goals established by the states). In this case, the*  
11 *state may determine the best system of continuous emission control technology*  
12 *and associated emission reductions for similar types of sources within a source*  
13 *category based on both source-specific and category-wide information, as*  
14 *appropriate.*

15 In June 2012, PacifiCorp prepared a new 5-factor BART analysis to satisfy the requirements of  
16 the BART rule. PacifiCorp submitted an update to that analysis on August 5, 2014 to address  
17 issues that EPA had raised with other regional haze SIPs. The technologies identified in the  
18 analysis range from the currently ~~required~~ installed low NO<sub>x</sub> burners with overfire air  
19 (presumptive BART) to the most-stringent NO<sub>x</sub> technology (SCR + low NO<sub>x</sub> burners with  
20 overfire air). DAQ reviewed PacifiCorp's analysis and agreed that SCR + low NO<sub>x</sub> burners with  
21 overfire air with an annual emission rate of 0.05 lb/MMBtu was the most stringent technology  
22 available to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from the four subject-to-BART EGUs.<sup>13</sup> This technology is  
23 very expensive to install on the subject-to-BART EGUs considering their current configuration  
24 and the unique characteristics of Utah's coal and would require careful consideration through a  
25 case-by-case 5-factor analysis before determining if it was cost effective. However, this  
26 technology can be used as a stringent benchmark for comparison with an alternative program.  
27 DAQ's use of this technology as a benchmark is not a determination that this technology is  
28 BART; it is merely a conservative approach to evaluate the effectiveness of the alternative  
29 program (see Table 2).

---

<sup>13</sup> EPA has used a 0.05 lb/MMBtu NO<sub>x</sub> emissions rate for SCR for other regional haze SIP analyses, recently in New Mexico and Arizona. *See e.g.*, 79 Fed. Reg. 60,978, 60, 984 (New Mexico, Oct. 9 2014) (“In promulgating the FIP, we evaluated the performance of both new and retrofit SCRs and determined that 0.05 lb/MMBtu on a 30-boiler-operating-day average was the appropriate emission limit for SCR at the San Juan Generating Station units. *See* 76 Fed. Reg. 491 and 76 Fed. Reg. 52,388. New Mexico appropriately used this same rate in their cost and visibility analyses for the four-SCR scenario as part of its BART evaluation.”); 79 Fed. Reg. 52,420, 52,431 (Arizona, Sept. 3, 2014) (“We agree that our use of a 0.05 lb/MMBtu annual average design value for SCR is consistent with other BART determinations for coal-fired power plants.”). EPA has agreed that even higher NO<sub>x</sub> emission ~~rates~~ limits can qualify as the most stringent emission rate for modeling visibility impacts. For example, EPA accepted state-mandated SCR emission ~~rates~~ limits of 0.07 and 0.08 lb/MMBtu (30-day rolling average) in Colorado, as well as its SCR related analyses based on 0.07. *See* 77 Fed. Reg. 76,871 (Colorado, Dec. 21, 2012). EPA also used 0.083 to 0.098 for the Reid Gardner Station in Nevada. 77 Fed. Reg. 50,936, 50,942 (Nevada, Aug. 23, 2012).

## 1 Projected Emission Reductions from Alternative Measures

2 *40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(i)(D) An analysis of the projected emissions reductions*  
 3 *achievable through the trading program or other alternative measure.*

4 Table 2 shows the estimated annual emissions in 2025 for NO<sub>x</sub>, ~~and~~ SO<sub>2</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub> for the  
 5 baseline, the most stringent NO<sub>x</sub> scenario (EPA FIP), and the alternative measure. The Baseline  
 6 modeling scenario represents the emission values in the future year (2025) before any  
 7 additional control technology (other than controls that were in operation during the PacifiCorp  
 8 power plants baseline period of 2001-2003) was placed on any of the PacifiCorp units to reduce  
 9 emissions. EPA’s FIP issued on July 5, 2016 required the same controls as the most stringent  
 10 technology. These controls are described in the previous section of this staff review. Annual  
 11 emissions of other haze causing pollutants can be found in Appendix A. While NO<sub>x</sub> emissions  
 12 are higher under the alternative measure, emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> lower under the alternative measure.  
 13 Combined emissions of ~~both~~ the three pollutants are 1, ~~576~~ 879 tons/yr lower under the  
 14 alternative measure.<sup>14</sup>

15 **Table 2 Estimated emissions under the 2025 Baseline Scenario, EPA FIP (most stringent NO<sub>x</sub>**  
 16 **scenario), and the Alternative scenario**

Units	NO <sub>x</sub> (tpy)			SO <sub>2</sub> (tpy)			PM <sub>10</sub> (tpy)			Combined		
	2025 Baseline	EPA FIP	Alternative	2025 Baseline	EPA FIP	Alternative	2025 Baseline	EPA FIP	Alternative	2025 Baseline	EPA FIP	Alternative
Carbon 1	1,312	1,312	0	2,286	2,286	0	119.9	119.9	0	3,718	3,718	0
Carbon 2	1,977	1,977	0	3,528	3,528	0	182.9	182.9	0	5,688	5,688	0
Hunter 1	6,380	796	3,166	2,535	1,153	1,153	733	733	733	9,648	2,682	5,052
Hunter 2	6,092	798	3,028	2,531	1,408	1,408	717	717.4	717.4	9,340	2,923	5,153
Hunter 3	6,530	6,530	4,490	1,204	1,230	1,230	531	530.6	530.6	8,265	8,291	6,251
Huntington 1	5,944	793	3,147	2,380	1,254	1,254	517	517.2	517.2	8,841	2,564	4,918
Huntington 2	5,816	753	3,366	12,308	1,201	1,201	1,033	1,033	1,033	19,157	2,987	5,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>34,051</b>	<b>12,959</b>	<b>17,197</b>	<b>26,772</b>	<b>12,060</b>	<b>6,246</b>	<b>3,834</b>	<b>3,834</b>	<b>3,531</b>	<b>64,657</b>	<b>28,853</b>	<b>26,974</b>

17 \*Emissions data comes from the EPA’s Clean Air Markets Division (CAMD).

## 18 Continued Focus on SO<sub>2</sub> Reductions

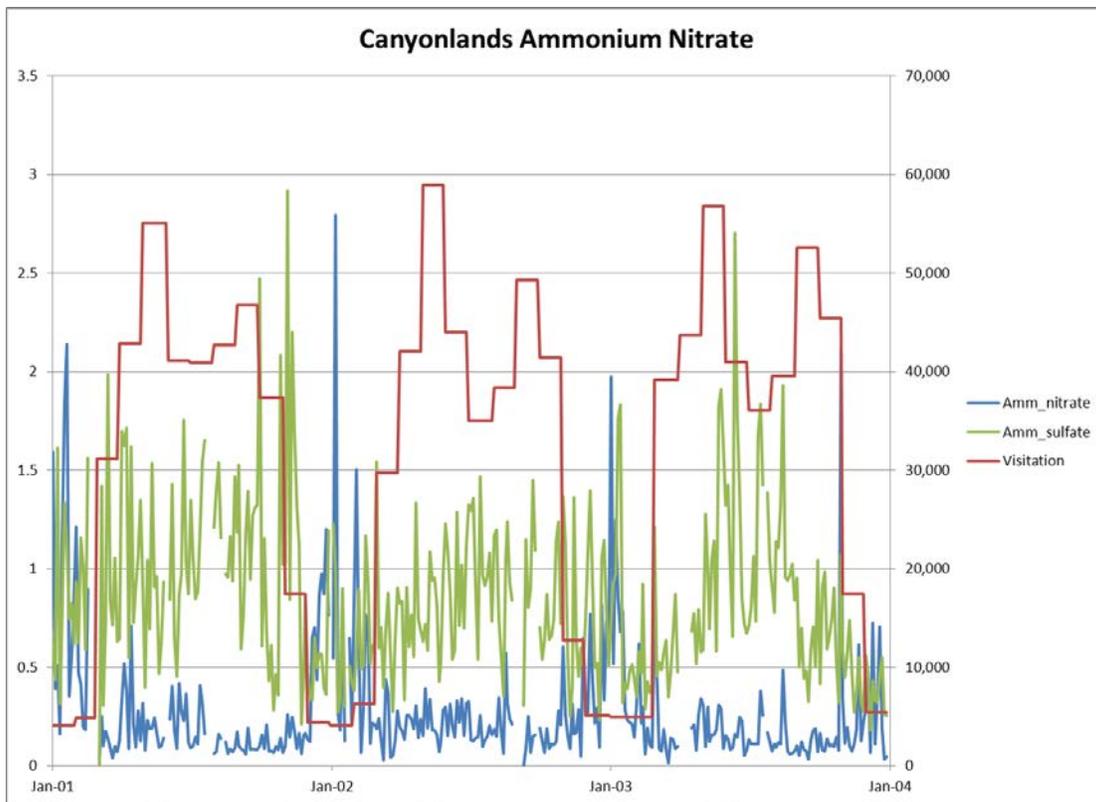
19 As outlined in this section past research and modeling shows that SO<sub>2</sub> reductions generally  
 20 provide a greater visibility benefit to Class I areas on the Colorado Plateau. The proposed BART

<sup>14</sup> EPA has approved, or proposed approval, of other BART alternatives that included “inter-pollutant trading” when SO<sub>2</sub> levels were lowered. These approvals were based on modeling such that the relative benefits of SO<sub>2</sub> vs. NO<sub>x</sub> reductions were addressed. 79 Fed. Reg. 33,438, 33,440-41 (Washington, June 11, 2014); 79 Fed. Reg. 56,322, 56,328 (Arizona, Sept. 19, 2014).

1 alternative relies on additional SO<sub>2</sub> reductions to demonstrate that it meets the requirements of  
2 the two-prong test in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3).

3 Utah's 2003 RH SIP focused on SO<sub>2</sub> reductions because SO<sub>2</sub> has the greatest overall impact at  
4 Class I areas on the Colorado Plateau and revisions in 2008 and 2011 continued this focus. The  
5 alternative measures enhance that approach through additional, significant emission reductions  
6 of over 8,000 tons/yr SO<sub>2</sub> due to the closure of the Carbon Plant. Figure 1 shows that sulfates  
7 are the dominant visibility impairing pollutant at Canyonlands, the Class I area with the greatest  
8 overall impact from the four subject-to-BART sources. Figure 4 shows that sulfates affect  
9 visibility throughout the year and are the dominant visibility impairing pollutant from  
10 anthropogenic sources during the high visitation period of March through November. Similar  
11 results are seen at the other Class I areas and are documented in the TSD.

12 **Figure 4 Canyonlands ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate**



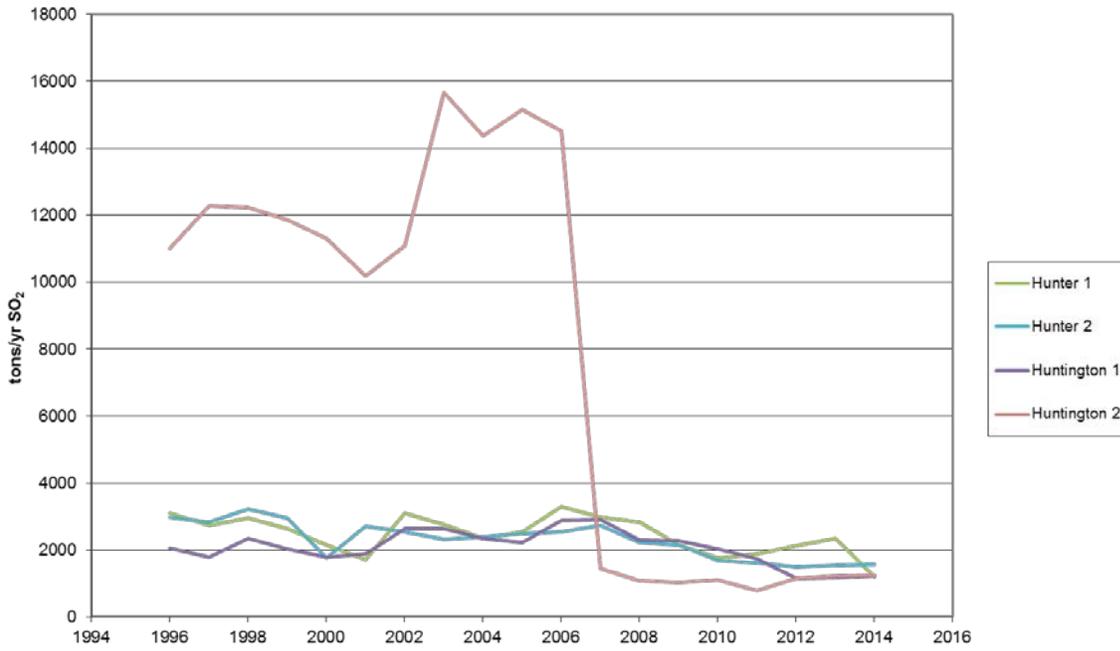
13

14

15 DAQ has confidence that SO<sub>2</sub> reductions will achieve meaningful visibility improvement and  
16 contribute to the finding that this BART alternative meets the requirements of the two-prong  
17 test. The visibility improvement during the winter months due to NO<sub>x</sub> reductions is much more  
18 uncertain. Figure 5 shows the significant emission reductions of both SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> that have  
19 occurred from the four subject-to-BART EGUs over the last 15 years.

1 **Figure 5 SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions Trends**

**SO<sub>2</sub> Emission Trends Utah Subject to BART EGUs**



2

**NO<sub>x</sub> Emission Trends Utah Subject-to-BART EGUs**



3

## 1 Greater Reasonable Progress than BART

2 *40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(i) A demonstration that the emissions trading program or*  
3 *other alternative measure will achieve greater reasonable progress than would*  
4 *have resulted from the installation and operation of BART at all sources subject*  
5 *to BART in the State and covered by the alternative program. This*  
6 *demonstration must be based on the following:*

7 *(E) A determination under paragraph (e)(3) of this section or otherwise*  
8 *based on the clear weight of evidence that the trading program or other*  
9 *alternative measure achieves greater reasonable progress than would be*  
10 *achieved through the installation and operation of BART at the covered*  
11 *sources.*

12 *40 CFR 51.308(e)(3) A State which opts under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2) to*  
13 *implement an emissions trading program or other alternative measure rather*  
14 *than to require sources subject to BART to install, operate, and maintain BART*  
15 *may satisfy the final step of the demonstration required by that section as*  
16 *follows: If the distribution of emissions is not substantially different than under*  
17 *BART, and the alternative measure results in greater emission reductions, then*  
18 *the alternative measure may be deemed to achieve greater reasonable progress.*  
19 *If the distribution of emissions is significantly different, the State must*  
20 *conduct dispersion modeling to determine differences in visibility between*  
21 *BART and the trading program for each impacted Class I area, for the worst*  
22 *and best 20 percent of days. The modeling would demonstrate “greater*  
23 *reasonable progress” if both of the following two criteria are met:*

24 *(i) Visibility does not decline in any Class I area, and*

25 *(ii) There is an overall improvement in visibility, determined by comparing the*  
26 *average differences between BART and the alternative over all affected Class I*  
27 *areas.*

28 The Hunter, Huntington, and Carbon plants are all located within 40 miles of each other in  
29 Central Utah. Because of the close proximity of the three plants, the temporal distribution of  
30 emissions will not be substantially different under the alternative program. The combined  
31 emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>, ~~and~~ SO<sub>2</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub> are 1,576,879 tons/yr lower under the alternative  
32 measure. ~~[Therefore, the alternative measure may be deemed to achieve greater reasonable~~  
33 ~~progress than BART.]~~

34 However, because ~~[the emission reductions under ]~~the BART alternative ~~[included]~~relies on  
35 reductions of SO<sub>2</sub> ~~[in addition to reductions of NO<sub>x</sub>, visibility improvement under the two~~  
36 ~~scenarios could occur during different episodes and during different times of the year. For this~~  
37 ~~reason, Utah chose to treat the distribution of emissions as significantly different than under~~  
38 ~~BART]~~in lieu of NO<sub>x</sub>, greater reasonable progress must be demonstrated through the two-prong  
39 test in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3) or a weight of evidence analysis. [Utah chose to]This analysis

1 demonstrates that greater reasonable progress is achieved through the BART alternative [by  
2 conducting]using dispersion modeling that shows the alternative to BART meets the two[-]-  
3 prong test required by 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3).

4 The two prong test requires an assessment of degradation of visibility at each Class I area in the  
5 modeling domain relative to the baseline (prong 1) and average visibility improvement across all  
6 Class I areas relative to BART (prong 2). Both prongs are assessed for the 20% best days and  
7 20% worst days.

8 PacifiCorp, at DAQ's direction and supervision and with EPA's cooperation and input,  
9 conducted dispersion modeling in 2018<sup>15</sup> using the Comprehensive Air Quality Model with  
10 extensions (CAMx) to compare the visibility improvement anticipated under the alternative  
11 measure with the visibility improvement under the most stringent NO<sub>x</sub> technology. CAMx is a  
12 photochemical grid model (PGM) with the capabilities to estimate the concentrations of  
13 pollutants that contribute to regional haze. It has a technical formulation that is considered  
14 more realistic than that of CALPUFF, and CAMx predicts more accurate changes in light  
15 extinction as a result to changes in emissions from EGUs<sup>16</sup>. A full description of the CAMx  
16 modeling platform used and the modeling results are included in Appendix A.

17 The seven EGUs shown in Table 3 EGUs analyzed with CAMxTable 3 were included in the  
18 modeling. The following 15 Class I areas, shown graphically in Figure 6, were included in the  
19 modeling domain:

- 20 1. Grand Canyon National Park (NP)
- 21 2. Arches NP
- 22 3. Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP
- 23 4. Bryce Canyon NP
- 24 5. Canyonlands NP
- 25 6. Capitol Reef NP
- 26 7. Mesa Verde NP
- 27 8. Zion NP
- 28 9. Flat Tops Wilderness Area (WA)
- 29 10. Mount Zirkel WA
- 30 11. Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA
- 31 12. West Elk WA
- 32 13. La Garita WA
- 33 14. Weminuche WA
- 34 15. San Pedro Parks WA

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<sup>15</sup> AECOM, Ramboll. Final Report CAMx Visibility Assessment for Utah Power Plants: Hunter, Huntington and Carbon. September 2018.

<sup>16</sup> (see 82 FR 5182, Revisions to the Guideline on Air Quality Models: Enhancements to the AERMOD Dispersion Modeling System and Incorporation of Approaches To Address Ozone and Fine Particulate Matter

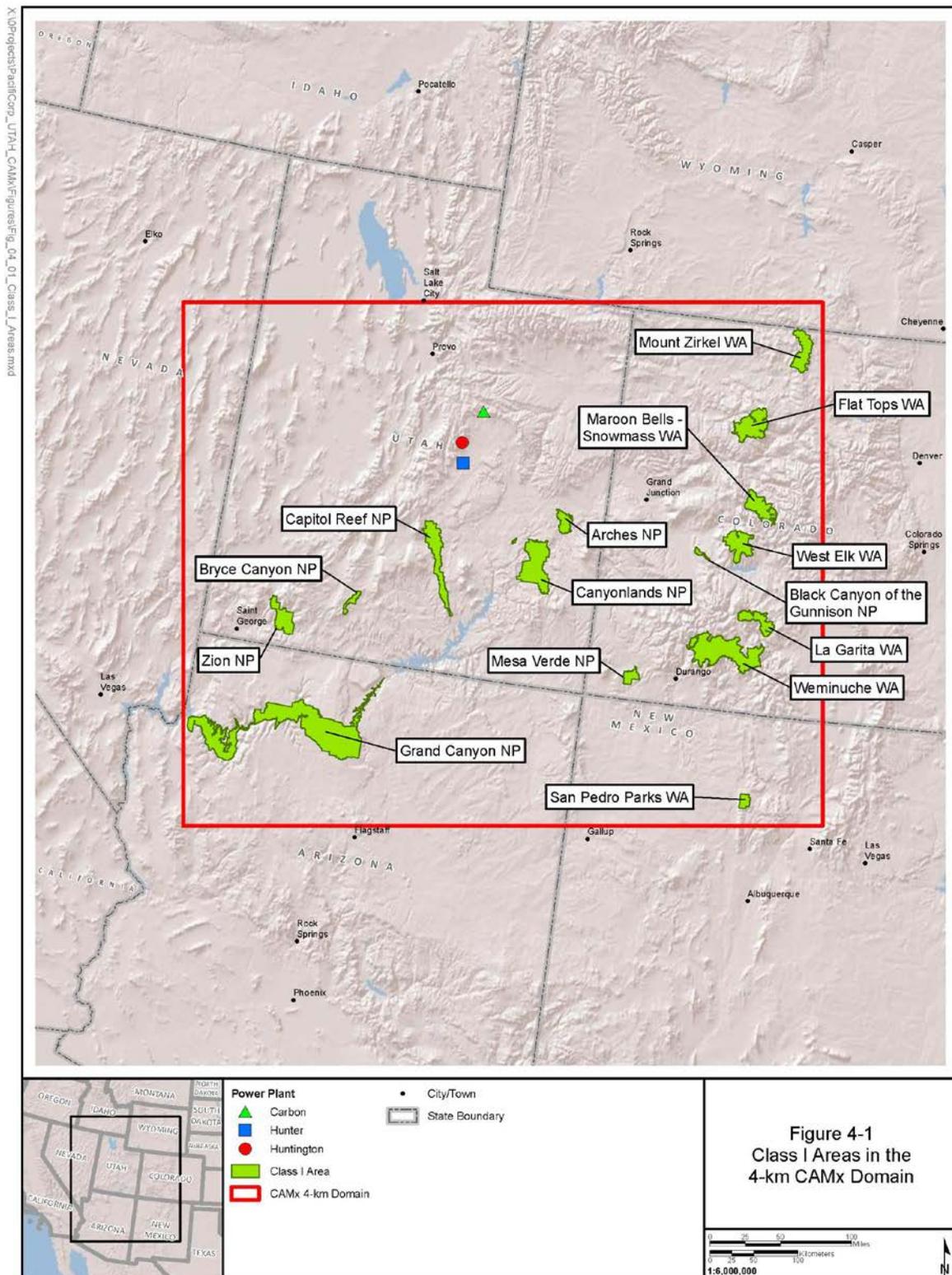
1 **Table 3 EGUs analyzed with CAMx**

<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Plant Name</b>	<b>Units</b>
PacifiCorp	Hunter	Boilers #1,2,3
PacifiCorp	Huntington	Boilers #1,2
PacifiCorp	Carbon	Boilers #1,2

2

3

1 **Figure 6 Class I areas within the CAMx modeling domain**



2

1 **Prong 1: Visibility does not decline in any Class I area**

2 The visibility impacts derived from the 2018 CAMx modeling results are summarized in Tables 4  
 3 and 5. The tables show the projected contribution to visibility on the 20 percent best days and  
 4 worst days respectively for the Baseline, the EPA FIP, and the proposed BART alternative  
 5 scenarios at each of the Class I areas analyzed. The last two columns show the predicted  
 6 visibility benefits from the BART alternative scenario relative to both the baseline and the FIP.  
 7 At the bottom of each table are the average visibility values from all the Class I areas. Negative  
 8 values in the last two columns indicate that the BART alternative has smaller contributions to  
 9 visibility impairment relative to the baseline and the FIP.

10 Column D in Table 4 shows that emissions from the seven EGUs under the BART alternative  
 11 will not result in degradation of visibility on the 20 percent best days compared to the Baseline  
 12 at any one of the 15 Class I areas. ~~[In general, the BART alternative scenario shows an average~~  
 13 ~~improvement in visibility of 0.00494 dv relative to the EPA FIP for the 20 percent best~~  
 14 ~~days.]~~ Similarly, Column D in **Error! Reference source not found.** shows that, on the 20  
 15 percent worst days, visibility impairment is less under the BART alternative than the baseline in  
 16 each of the Class I areas. Therefore, the BART alternative meets prong 1 of the “greater  
 17 reasonable progress using dispersion modeling” test found in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3).

18 **Table 4 Visibility Impacts for the, EPA FIP and BART alternative Scenarios on the 20 Percent Best**  
 19 **Days**

Class I area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] EPA FIP (dv)	[C] BART alternative (dv)	[D] BART alternative - Baseline	[E] BART alternative - EPA FIP
Arches NP	0.10300	0.05607	0.03851	-0.06449	-0.01756
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
Bryce Canyon NP	0.00528	0.00254	0.00228	-0.00300	-0.00026
Canyonlands NP	0.10300	0.05607	0.03851	-0.06449	-0.01756
Capitol Reef NP	0.14218	0.07222	0.07140	-0.07078	-0.00082
Flat Tops WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Grand Canyon NP	0.07136	0.03567	0.03611	-0.03525	0.00044
La Garita WA	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Mesa Verde NP	0.06356	0.03381	0.02749	-0.03607	-0.00632
Mount Zirkel WA	0.04209	0.02060	0.01471	-0.02738	-0.00589
San Pedro Parks WA	0.03627	0.01742	0.01593	-0.02034	-0.00149
Weminuche WA	0.02769	0.01611	0.01162	-0.01607	-0.00449
West Elk WA	0.02834	0.01488	0.01115	-0.01719	-0.00373
Zion NP <sup>1</sup>	0.00612	0.00291	0.00300	-0.00312	0.00009
<b>All Class I area Average</b>	<b>0.04940</b>	<b>0.02602</b>	<b>0.02108</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00494</b>

<sup>1</sup> Results based on incomplete dataset. Zion NP monitor did not meet the 75% data completion SMAT requirement for year 2011.

1 **Table 5 Visibility Impacts for the EPA FIP and BART alternative Scenarios on the 20 Percent Worst**  
 2 **Days**

Class I area	[A] Baseline (dv)	[B] EPA FIP (dv)	[C] BART alternative (dv)	[D] BART alternative - Baseline	[E] BART alternative - EPA FIP
Arches NP	0.25740	0.13780	0.12584	-0.13156	-0.01196
Black Canyon of the Gunnison NM	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
Bryce Canyon NP	0.04945	0.02184	0.02470	-0.02475	0.00286
Canyonlands NP	0.25740	0.13780	0.12584	-0.13156	-0.01196
Capitol Reef NP	0.26010	0.11672	0.14568	-0.11442	0.02896
Flat Tops WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Grand Canyon NP	0.00186	0.00089	0.00056	-0.00130	-0.00033
La Garita WA	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
Maroon Bells-Snowmass WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Mesa Verde NP	0.06203	0.02524	0.02959	-0.03244	0.00435
Mount Zirkel WA	0.03312	0.01705	0.01198	-0.02114	-0.00507
San Pedro Parks WA	0.00154	0.00074	0.00073	-0.00081	-0.00001
Weminuche WA	0.01265	0.00682	0.00540	-0.00725	-0.00142
West Elk WA	0.02703	0.01387	0.01011	-0.01692	-0.00376
Zion NP <sup>1</sup>	0.00155	0.00051	0.00051	-0.00104	0.00000
<b>All Class I area Average</b>	<b>0.06957</b>	<b>0.03471</b>	<b>0.03413</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-0.00058</b>

<sup>1</sup> Results based on incomplete dataset. Zion NP monitor did not meet the 75% data completion SMAT requirement for year 2011.

3 **Prong 2: An overall improvement in visibility**

4 A determination of whether the BART alternative meets prong 2 of the “greater reasonable  
 5 progress using dispersion modeling” test found in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3) is made by comparing  
 6 the average difference between the alternative and BART. As explained previously, Utah  
 7 considers the EPA July 5, 2016 FIP requirements as the most stringent control technology but  
 8 used them in this analysis as a substitute for BART. The last row of column E in Tables 4 and 5  
 9 show the average difference in visibility between the BART alternative and the FIP for the 20  
 10 percent best and worst days respectively. The negative number indicates that the average  
 11 visibility impact of the BART alternative is less than the FIP in both cases. Relative to the EPA  
 12 FIP, the BART alternative achieves an overall visibility improvement of 0.00494 dv on the 20  
 13 percent best days, and of 0.0058 dv on the 20 percent worst days. Therefore, the BART  
 14 alternative meets prong 2 of 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3).

15 The language in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3)(i) and (ii) indicate allowance of a straight numerical test.  
 16 The regulation does not specify that a minimum difference in deciview between the scenarios  
 17 must be achieved to determine that a BART alternative achieves greater reasonable progress.  
 18 Because the modeling results show that visibility under the BART alternative does not decline at  
 19 any of the 15 affected Class I areas compared to the baseline (prong 1) and will result in

- 1 improved visibility, on average, across all 15 Class I areas compared to the EPA FIP (prong 2),
- 2 Utah finds that the BART alternative will achieve greater reasonable progress than the EPA FIP
- 3 under the two-prong modeling test in 40 CFR 51.308(e)(3).

1 **Timing of NO<sub>x</sub> Emission Reductions under Alternative Measure and**  
2 **Monitoring, Recordkeeping, and Reporting**

3 *40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iii) A requirement that all necessary emission reductions*  
4 *take place during the period of the first long-term strategy for regional haze. To*  
5 *meet this requirement, the State must provide a detailed description of the*  
6 *emissions trading program or other alternative measure, including schedules*  
7 *for implementation, the emission reductions required by the program, all*  
8 *necessary administrative and technical procedures for implementing the*  
9 *program, rules for accounting and monitoring emissions, and procedures for*  
10 *enforcement.*

11 The schedule for installation of the NO<sub>x</sub> controls required by the alternative measure is shown in  
12 Table 4. The alternative measure has been fully implemented prior to 2018, the end of the first  
13 long term strategy for regional haze.

14 **Table 6 Implementation Schedule**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Year Installed or Required</b>
PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 1	2014
PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 2	2011
PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 3	2008
PacifiCorp Huntington Unit 1	2010
PacifiCorp Huntington Unit 2	2006
PacifiCorp Carbon Unit 1	2015
PacifiCorp Carbon Unit 2	2015

15  
16 The enforceable emission limits, administrative and technical procedures for implementing the  
17 program, rules for accounting and monitoring emissions, and procedures for enforcement are  
18 addressed in SIP Section IX, Parts H.21 and 22.

19

## 1 Emission Reductions are Surplus

2 *40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iv) A demonstration that the emission reductions resulting*  
3 *from the emissions trading program or other alternative measure will be*  
4 *surplus to those reductions resulting from measures adopted to meet*  
5 *requirements of the CAA as of the baseline date of the SIP.*

## 6 Baseline Date of the SIP

7 When the regional haze rule was promulgated in 1999, EPA explained that the “baseline date of  
8 the SIP” in this context means “the date of the emissions inventories on which the SIP relies.”<sup>17</sup>  
9 The baseline inventory for the regional SO<sub>2</sub> milestones and backstop trading program in Utah’s  
10 2003 SIP was 1990 while the inventory for the remaining elements in the 2003 SIP, including  
11 enhanced smoke management, mobile sources, and pollution prevention, was 1996. When the  
12 RH SIP was updated in 2008, a new baseline inventory of 2002 was established for regional  
13 modeling, evaluating the impact on Class I areas outside of the Colorado Plateau, and BART as  
14 outlined in EPA Guidance<sup>18</sup> and the July 6, 2005 BART Rule.<sup>19</sup> For purposes of evaluating an  
15 alternative to BART, the later baseline date of 2002 is therefore most appropriate. 2002 is the  
16 baseline inventory that was used by other states throughout the country when evaluating BART  
17 under the provisions of 40 CFR 51.308. Any measure adopted after 2002 is considered “surplus”  
18 under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iv)<sup>20</sup>. To make a valid comparison that the “alternative measure will  
19 be surplus to those reductions resulting from measures adopted to meet requirements of the  
20 Regional Haze Rule as of the baseline date of the SIP” as required by 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(iv),  
21 the Most Stringent NO<sub>x</sub> scenario includes measures required before the baseline date of the SIP  
22 but does not include later measures that are credited as part of the alternative scenario.

## 23 SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> Reductions from the Closure of the PacifiCorp Carbon Plant

24 Utah met the BART requirement for SO<sub>2</sub> as provided under 40 CFR 51.309(d)(4) through the  
25 establishment of SO<sub>2</sub> emission milestones with a backstop regulatory trading program to ensure  
26 that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the 3-state region of Utah, Wyoming, and New Mexico decreased  
27 substantially between 2003 and 2018. The final SO<sub>2</sub> milestone in 2018 was determined to  
28 provide greater reasonable progress than BART and the overall RH SIP was deemed to meet the  
29 reasonable progress requirements for Class I areas on the Colorado Plateau and for other Class I  
30 areas<sup>21</sup>. The modeling supporting the RH SIP included regional SO<sub>2</sub> emissions based on the  
31 2018 SO<sub>2</sub> milestone and also included NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from the Carbon Plant. Actual emissions  
32 in the 3-state region are calculated each year and compared to the milestones. As can be seen in

---

<sup>17</sup> 64 Fed. Reg. 35,742 (July 1, 1999).

<sup>18</sup> Memorandum from Lydia Wegman and Peter Tsirigotis, 2002 Base Year Emission Inventory SIP Planning: 8-hr Ozone, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and Regional Haze Programs, November 8, 2002.

<sup>19</sup> 70 Fed. Reg. 39,143 (July 6, 2005).

<sup>20</sup> Utah’s actions here are consistent with EPA’s actions in other states. *See e.g.*, 79 Fed. Reg. at 33,441-42; 79 Fed. Reg. at 56,328.

<sup>21</sup> 77 Fed. Reg. 74,355 (Dec. 14, 2012).

1 Table [5]7, the 2018 milestone was met seven years early in 2011, and SO<sub>2</sub> emissions have  
 2 continued to decline. Final compliance with the 2018 milestone is determined after the 2018  
 3 milestone report is submitted to EPA. The most recent milestone report for 2016 demonstrates  
 4 that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions are currently 36% lower than the 2018 milestone. The Carbon Plant was fully  
 5 operational in the years 2011-2013 when the 2018 milestone was initially achieved for those  
 6 years. Therefore, the SO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions from the closure of the Carbon Plant are surplus  
 7 to what is needed to meet the 2018 milestone established in Utah's RH SIP.

8 **Table 7 SO<sub>2</sub> Milestone Trends**

Year	Milestone	Three Year Average SO <sub>2</sub> Emissions (tons/yr)	Carbon Plant SO <sub>2</sub> Emissions (tons/yr)
2003	303,264	214,780	5,488
2004	303,264	223,584	5,642
2005	303,264	220,987	5,410
2006	303,264	218,499	6,779
2007	303,264	203,569	6,511
2008	269,083	186,837	5,057
2009	234,903	165,633	5,494
2010	200,722	146,808	7,462
2011	200,722	131,074	7,740
2012	200,722	115,316	8,307
2013	185,795	105,006	7,702
2014	170,868	96,302	9,241
2015	155,940	91,310	2,816
2016	155,940	90,591	0
2017	155,940		
2018	141,849		

9

10 The Carbon Plant was built in the 1950s and is therefore grandfathered under Utah's permitting  
 11 rules. The plant was equipped with an electrostatic precipitator for PM control and had no SO<sub>2</sub>  
 12 or NO<sub>x</sub> controls. PacifiCorp shut down the Carbon Power Plant on April 14, 2015 due to the high  
 13 cost of controlling mercury to meet the requirements of EPA's new Mercury and Air Toxics  
 14 Standards (MATS) rule. The MATS rule was finalized in 2011, well after the 2002 base year for  
 15 Utah's RH SIP, and therefore any reductions required to meet the MATS rule are clearly surplus  
 16 and may be considered as part of an alternative strategy under 40 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(vi). An  
 17 enforceable requirement is included in Section IX.H.22 of the SIP that made the permanent  
 18 closure of the Carbon Plant enforceable by August 15, 2015.

19 In October 2015, the Utah Air Quality Board approved an Enforceable Commitment whereby  
 20 Utah committed to amend SIP sections and rules so that emissions reductions from the closure  
 21 of the Carbon plant would not be counted under both 308 and 309. As part of this SIP  
 22 amendment, the DAQ is amending State Rule R307-150 so that the Carbon Plant will continue

1 to report 8,005 tons of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions each year as part of the SO<sub>2</sub> Milestone report. This allows  
2 credit for those emissions reductions to be used as part of the State's BART alternative.

### 3 **PacifiCorp Hunter Unit 3**

4 PacifiCorp upgraded the low-NO<sub>x</sub> burners on Hunter Unit 3 in 2008. This upgrade was not  
5 required under the requirements of the Clean Air Act as of the 2002 baseline date of the SIP and  
6 is therefore clearly considered surplus and may be credited in the alternative program under 40  
7 CFR 51.308(e)(2)(vi). Prior to the 2008 upgrade, the emission rate for Hunter Unit 2 was 0.46  
8 lb/MMBtu heat input for a 30-day rolling average as required by Phase II of the Acid Rain  
9 Program. After 2008 the emissions limit with the low-NO<sub>x</sub> burner installed is 0.26 lb/MMBtu  
10 (30-day rolling average).

### 11 **Future Planning**

12 The regional haze program is designed to achieve a long-term goal and updated SIPs are  
13 required every 10 years to ensure continued progress. The January 2017 revision to the Regional  
14 Haze Rule changed the next two SIP submissions so they are not on a 10-year schedule, instead  
15 SIP revisions are due by July 31, 2021, July 31, 2028, and every 10 years thereafter. The DAQ is  
16 beginning work on a RH SIP that will address the next planning period of 2021 – 2028. [~~This~~  
17 ~~next RH SIP is due in 2021, and t~~]The DAQ anticipates that this SIP will be completed in parallel  
18 with planning efforts to meet the 2015 ozone NAAQS. Both regional haze and ozone are affected  
19 by regional NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, and the DAQ anticipates that common emission strategies will lead  
20 to improvements in both areas. Significant technical work must be completed before these  
21 common benefits can be quantified in the next RH SIP.

22

23

# 1 Appendix A

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2 *CAMx Visibility Assessment for Utah Power Plants: Hunter, Huntington and*  
3 *Carbon*

4

# ITEM 5



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT  
*Governor*

SPENCER J. COX  
*Lieutenant Governor*

Department of  
Environmental Quality

Alan Matheson  
*Executive Director*

DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY  
Bryce C. Bird  
*Director*

DAQ-059-19

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Air Quality Board

**THROUGH:** Bryce C. Bird, Executive Secretary

**FROM:** Thomas Gunter, Environmental Planning Consultant

**DATE:** June 11, 2019

**SUBJECT:** FINAL ADOPTION: Change in Proposed Rule R307-110-28. Regional Haze.

---

On March 6, 2019, the Board proposed amended R307-110-28 for public comment. During that comment period, no comments were received. However, the amendments to Section XX, Regional Haze, Parts A and D, incorporated through this rule had an extended comment period. Since R307-110-28 is the rule that incorporates the new amendments into the rules, it is necessary to amend the rule to match the State Implementation Plan's (SIPs) new date of adoption.

If the Board adopts the amendments to Section XX, Parts A and D, these amendments will become part of Utah's SIP when the rule is finalized.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board adopt Change in Proposed Rule R307-110-28 as amended.

1 **Appendix 1: Regulatory Impact Summary Table\***

<b>Fiscal Costs</b>	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
State Government	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0
Small Businesses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Non-Small Businesses	\$	\$	\$
Other Person	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Fiscal Costs:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Fiscal Benefits</b>			
State Government	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0
Small Businesses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Non-Small Businesses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Persons	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Fiscal Benefits:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Net Fiscal Benefits:	\$0	\$0	\$0

2  
3  
4 \*This table only includes fiscal impacts that could be measured. If there are inestimable fiscal impacts, they will  
5 not be included in this table. Inestimable impacts for State Government, Local Government, Small Businesses and Other  
6 Persons are described in the narrative. Inestimable impacts for Non-Small Businesses are described in Appendix 2.

7 **Appendix 2: Regulatory Impact to Non-Small Businesses**

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9 The Change in Propose Rule only amends the date within the rule. This  
10 date change does not change the original fiscal analysis.

11  
12 The Executive Director of the Department of Environmental Quality,  
13 Alan Matheson, has reviewed and approved this fiscal analysis.

14  
15 \*\*\*Non-small business" means a business employing 50 or more persons; "small business" means a business employing  
16 fewer than 50 persons.

17  
18 **R307. Environmental Quality, Air Quality.**

19 **R307-110. General Requirements: State Implementation Plan.**

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21 **R307-110-28. Regional Haze.**

22 The Utah State Implementation Plan, Section XX, Regional Haze,  
23 as most recently amended by the Utah Air Quality Board on June [5]24,  
24 2019, pursuant to Section 19-2-104, is hereby incorporated by  
25 reference and made a part of these rules.

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27 **KEY: air pollution, PM10, PM2.5, ozone**

28 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: , 2019**

29 **Notice of Continuation: January 27, 2017**

30 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 19-2-104**

# ITEM 6



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT  
*Governor*

SPENCER J. COX  
*Lieutenant Governor*

Department of  
Environmental Quality

Alan Matheson  
*Executive Director*

DIVISION OF AIR QUALITY  
Bryce C. Bird  
*Director*

DAQ-060-19

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Air Quality Board

**THROUGH:** Bryce C. Bird, Executive Secretary

**FROM:** Jay Baker, Environmental Scientist

**DATE:** June 11, 2019

**SUBJECT:** FINAL ADOPTION: R307-150-3. Applicability.

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On March 6, 2019, the Board approved amended R307-150-3 for public comment. Utah's Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP) contains sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) milestones that are based on 2006 SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from power plants. To ensure that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions reductions are occurring, R307-150 requires power plants to report their annual SO<sub>2</sub> emissions. In 2015, the Board approved a SIP revision with an alternative to best available retrofit technology (BART) for NO<sub>x</sub>. Part of the alternative included the closure of the Carbon Power Plant. Emission reductions of SO<sub>2</sub> from the closure were included in the demonstration that the alternative was better than BART. Because the SO<sub>2</sub> reductions are part of the BART alternative for NO<sub>x</sub>, they should not be counted towards reductions in the SO<sub>2</sub> milestone program. Staff is proposing this amendment to R307-150 to require the Carbon Power Plant SO<sub>2</sub> emissions to be reported as 8,005 tons/year in the annual SO<sub>2</sub> Milestone Report to EPA.

A public comment period was held from April 1 – May 1, 2019. The only comments were received on May 1, 2019, submitted collectively by Heal Utah, the Sierra Club, and the National Parks Conservation Association. The four comments, along with DAQ's responses, are summarized below:

**Comment #1** – EPA explicitly relied on SO<sub>2</sub> emissions reductions from “smaller non-BART sources,” which include the Carbon Plant to approve Utah's Section 309 Western Backstop Trading Program in 2012. Having used SO<sub>2</sub> emissions reductions from Carbon to secure approval of its SO<sub>2</sub> BART alternative, Utah's proposal to rely on SO<sub>2</sub> emissions reductions associated with the closure of that plant under Utah's NO<sub>x</sub> BART Alternative would be illegal double-counting of those emission reductions.

**DAQ Response:** Staff disagrees with this comment. The 309 Program did not rely on reductions from the Carbon Plant and the Hunter 3 Unit as stated in staff's response to comments and the staff review for the Regional Haze SIP approved by the Air Quality Board in June 2015. In fact, that same response states that "emission reductions from the Carbon Plant and Hunter 3 were not necessary for other states to meet their reasonable progress goals and therefore provide an added benefit." Removing sources that were relied upon from the Program is not allowed. This Enforceable Commitment is limited to emissions from the closure of the Carbon units. That is a new requirement in the latest revision of Utah's Regional Haze SIP and will pre-date any requirements that may come out in a future mercury and air toxics standards (MATS) rule.

**Comment #2** – Utah's proposal would violate the regional haze regulations that require SIPs under Section 309 to "include provisions requiring the monitoring, recordkeeping, and annual reporting of actual stationary source SO<sub>2</sub> emissions within the State." 40 C.F.R. § 51.309(d)(4)(iii).

**DAQ Response:** Staff disagrees with this comment. Comparing the reported emissions with the milestone would not allow the monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting data to be sufficient to determine annually whether the milestone for each year through 2018 is achieved. 40 CFR §51.309(d)(4)(iii). Additionally, the approved Utah 309 SIP requires each milestone report to include actual regional sulfur dioxide emissions in tons per year and adjustments to account for changes in emission monitoring or calculation methods. We can report zero actual emissions for the Carbon Plant in the milestone reports then adjust it to reflect a change in the calculation method so that the reductions are not accounted for twice. This will result in a much more conservative comparison of present-day emissions to projected emissions in the Regional Haze SIP.

Section 309 specifically recognizes that "*During the first two years of the program, compliance with the milestones may be measured by a methodology of the States' choosing, so long as all States in the program use the same methodology.*" (Emphasis added) 40 CFR §51.309(d)(4)(i). Because each state's emissions are reported separately and then compiled for the milestone report, other states cannot count emissions reductions from Utah as part of their inventory. Utah's adjustment will not affect the other states' reporting for their own emissions, but will impact the total emissions reported to EPA.

**Comment #3** – There are two other states participating in and relying Utah's reductions as part of the SO<sub>2</sub> Western Backstop Trading Program, namely Wyoming and New Mexico. Section requires that, "... all States in the program [must] use the same methodology." 40 C.F.R. § 51.309(d)(4)(i). Unless Wyoming and New Mexico revise their SO<sub>2</sub> SIPs to discount the Carbon SO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions, Utah's proposal would violate this requirement of Section 309.

**DAQ Response:** Staff disagrees with this comment. Section 309 specifically recognizes that "*During the first two years of the program, compliance with the milestones may be measured by a methodology of the States' choosing, so long as all States in the program use the same methodology.*" (Emphasis added) 40 CFR §51.309(d)(4)(i). Because each state's emissions are reported separately and then compiled for the milestone report, other states cannot count emissions reductions from Utah as part of their inventory. Utah's adjustment will not affect the other states' reporting for their own emissions, but will impact the total emissions reported to EPA.

**Comment #4** – Utah's proposal conflicts with EPA's legal justification for approving the Section 309 Western Backstop Trading Program. EPA's approval of the Section 309 Program in lieu of source-specific BART required a finding that the program would "achieve greater reasonable progress." However, EPA projected that SO<sub>2</sub> emissions under the Section 309 Program would be equal to predicted BART-based emissions. In its proposal to find that the Section 309 Program nonetheless satisfied the "greater reasonable progress" requirement, EPA explained:

The backstop trading program includes all stationary sources with emissions greater than 100 tpy of SO<sub>2</sub>, and thus, encompasses 63 non-subject-to-BART sources.... BART applied on a source-specific basis would not affect these sources, and there would be no limitation on their future operations under their existing permit conditions, or allowable emissions. The milestones will cap these sources at 2002 actual emissions, which are less than current allowable emissions.

Proposed Rule, 77 Fed. Reg. 28,825, 28,837 (May 16, 2012). In other words, the inclusion of “smaller, non-BART sources,” such as Carbon, provided an essential legal underpinning for EPA’s approval. Final Rule, 77 Fed. Reg. at 74,360. Utah’s proposal to retroactively remove the Carbon Plant from the Section 309 Western Backstop Trading Program would undermine and potentially nullify EPA’s approval.

**DAQ Response:** Staff disagrees with this comment. The 309 Program did not rely on reductions from the Carbon Plant and the Hunter 3 Unit as stated in staff’s response to comments and the staff review for the recently submitted SIP. In fact, that same response states that “emission reductions from the Carbon Plant and Hunter 3 were not necessary for other states to meet their reasonable progress goals and therefore provide an added benefit.” Removing sources that were relied upon from the Program is not allowed. This Enforceable Commitment is limited to emissions from the closure of the Carbon units. That is a new requirement in the latest revision of Utah’s Regional Haze SIP and will pre-date any requirements that may come out in a future MATS Rule.

For the reasons stated in staff’s response to these comments, no changes were made to the rule.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Board adopt R307-150-3 as amended.

1 **R307. Environmental Quality, Air Quality.**

2 **R307-150. Emission Inventories.**

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6 **R307-150-3. Applicability.**

7 (1) R307-150-4 applies to all stationary sources with actual  
8 emissions of 100 tons or more per year of sulfur dioxide in calendar  
9 year 2000 or any subsequent year unless exempted in R307-150-3(1) (a).  
10 Sources subject to R307-150-4 may be subject to other sections of  
11 R307-150.

12 (a) A stationary source that meets the requirements of  
13 R307-150-3(1) that has permanently ceased operation is exempt from the  
14 requirements of R307-150-4 for all years during which the source did  
15 not operate at any time during the year.

16 (b) Notwithstanding R307-150-3(a), beginning with 2016  
17 emissions, the Division of Air Quality will include emissions of 8,005  
18 tons/yr of sulfur dioxide for the Carbon Power Plant in the annual  
19 regional sulfur dioxide milestone report required as part of the  
20 Regional Haze State Implementation Plan.

21 (c) Except as provided in R307-150-3(1)(a), any source that meets  
22 the criteria of R307-150-3(1) and that emits less than 100 tons per  
23 year of sulfur dioxide in any subsequent year shall remain subject to  
24 the requirements of R307-150-4 until 2018 or until the first control  
25 period under the Western Backstop Sulfur Dioxide Trading Program as  
26 established in R307-250-12(1)(a), whichever is earlier.

27 (2) R307-150-5 applies to large major sources.

28 (3) R307-150-6 applies to:

29 (a) each major source that is not a large major source;

30 (b) each source with the potential to emit 5 tons or more per year  
31 of lead; and

32 (c) each source not included in R307-150-3(2), R307-150-3(3)(a),  
33 or R307-150-3(3)(b) that is located in Davis, Salt Lake, Utah, or Weber  
34 Counties and that has the potential to emit 25 tons or more per year  
35 of any combination of oxides of nitrogen, oxides of sulfur and PM<sub>10</sub>,  
36 or the potential to emit 10 tons or more per year of volatile organic  
37 compounds.

38 (4) R307-150-7 applies to Part 70 sources not included in  
39 R307-150-3(2) or R307-150-3(3).

40 (5) R307-150-9 applies to sources with Standard Industrial  
41 Classification codes in the major group 13 that have uncontrolled  
42 actual emissions greater than one ton per year for a single pollutant  
43 of PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, oxides of nitrogen, oxides of sulfur, carbon monoxide  
44 or volatile organic compounds. These sources include, but are not  
45 limited to, industries involved in oil and natural gas exploration,

1 production, and transmission operations; well production facilities;  
2 natural gas compressor stations; and natural gas processing plants and  
3 commercial oil and gas disposal wells, and ponds.

4 (a) Sources that require inventory submittals under  
5 R307-150-3(1) through R307-150-3(4) are excluded from the  
6 requirements of R307-150-9.

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9

10 **KEY: air pollution, reports, inventories**

11 **Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: , 2019**

12 **Notice of Continuation: November 13, 2018**

13 **Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 19-2-104(1)(c)**