

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD BEGINNING APRIL 17, 2009  
AND A PUBLIC HEARING ON MAY 20, 2009**

conducted by the  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Air Quality Planning

Pursuant to the public hearing requirements in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 51 section 102, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) is issuing the following notice.

**NDEP has scheduled a public hearing on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** The hearing will be held at the Western Nevada College campus located at 2201 West College Parkway, Room 103 of the Reynolds Building, in Carson City, Nevada. The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments from all interested persons regarding Nevada's *Draft Regional Haze State Implementation Plan* (RH SIP).

In 1977, Congress amended the Clean Air Act (CAA) establishing a national goal to protect visibility in Class I federal areas - primarily national parks and wilderness areas. The amendments called for the "prevention of any future, and the remedying of any existing, impairment of visibility in mandatory class I Federal areas which impairment results from manmade air pollution." Nevada has one mandatory Class I area, the Jarbidge Wilderness Area, in the northeast corner of the state managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

In 1999, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency adopted the Regional Haze Rule (RHR; 40 CFR 51.308). The intent of the RHR is to improve visibility over the next 56 years in all mandatory Class I areas across the country. It requires each affected state to develop and adopt a plan that will improve the haziest days and protect the clearest days at each mandatory Class I area in the state with a goal of returning to natural visibility conditions by the year 2064. Each plan must provide a comprehensive analysis of natural and man-made sources of haze for each mandatory Class I area in the state and contain strategies to control anthropogenic emissions that contribute to haze. The plan must also address the transport of haze across state boundaries.

NDEP has prepared a draft RH SIP to meet the requirements of the federal RHR. Though national visibility goals are to be achieved by the year 2064, the current plan meets the requirements of improving visibility for the most impaired days and ensuring no degradation in visibility for the least impaired days for the period ending in 2018, the first planning period in the federal rule. Nevada's RH SIP contains strategies and elements related to each requirement of the federal rule.

The draft SIP and related materials are available on the NDEP website at: <http://ndep.nv.gov/baqp/planning.html>. Access to the draft SIP may also be obtained by contacting Adele Malone at NDEP, 901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 4001, Carson City, NV 89701; (775) 687-9356; or e-mail to [amalone@ndep.nv.gov](mailto:amalone@ndep.nv.gov). Persons wishing to comment on the proposed SIP during the comment period should submit their comments **in writing** either in person or by mail or fax to Adele Malone at the NDEP address, or by FAX at (775) 687-6396. Oral comments will be received at the Hearing. Written comments will be received by NDEP at the above address or at the Hearing from April 17 through May 20, 2009 and will be retained and considered.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons you know that may be interested in this matter.

*This notice has been published in the Las Vegas Review-Journal and the Reno Gazette Journal newspapers. It has been posted at the NDEP offices in Carson City and Las Vegas, at the State Library in Carson City and at County libraries throughout Nevada. Members of the public who are disabled and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify Adele Malone or Cathy Douglas (775-687-9349) no later than 3 working days before the hearing.*

*4/14/09*