



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

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DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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## **Nevada Division of Environmental Protection submits Regional Haze SIP**

**November 18, 2009 -- Carson City, Nevada (NV)** – Today the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) submitted Nevada's Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (Plan) in accordance with federal requirements in the Federal Clean Air Act (CAA).

The Plan was developed in response to the federal Regional Haze Rule (Rule), adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1999. This federal rule requires incremental improvements in visibility over the next 60 years in 156 national parks and wilderness areas across the country, known as Class I areas. The Regional Haze Plan is designed to improve visibility conditions in Nevada's only mandatory federal Class I area, the Jarbidge Wilderness Area, as well as those Class I areas in neighboring states, as required by the Rule.

The Plan provides for visibility improvement at the Jarbidge Wilderness Area by meeting a visibility benchmark in 2018. Under the Plan, four facilities are subject to the federal Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) requirements. These facilities are: NV Energy's Reid Gardner Station, Tracy Station, Ft. Churchill Station and Southern California Edison's Mohave Station. BART requires older industrial facilities that began operation before 1977 to install pollution controls for PM, NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>. These sources are generally not subject to any other performance standard or technology-based emission control requirements.

Current analysis shows that visibility impairment at the Jarbidge Wilderness Area is primarily due to natural emissions of smoke and dust due to wildfire and windblown dust. However, implementation of BART and other components of the Plan are expected to reduce 2018 anthropogenic emissions by tens of thousands of tons annually from Nevada sources.

For further information please visit our Regional Haze website at: [www.ndep.nv.gov](http://www.ndep.nv.gov). Or contact: Adele Malone at: (775) 687-9356.