

Case No. **24-2144**

FILED

JUN 03 2024

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

**U.S. Court of Appeals
Eighth Circuit**

STATE OF ARKANSAS AND ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT, DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY,
Petitioners,

v.

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY and MICHAEL S. REGAN, ADMINISTRATOR, UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,
Respondents.

PETITION FOR REVIEW

Pursuant to Clean Air Act Section 307(b)(1), 42 U.S.C. 3607(b)(1), and Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 15(a), Petitioners the State of Arkansas and Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), hereby petition this Court for review of the Respondents United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Administrator Michael S. Regan's denial of ADEQ's petition for reconsideration of EPA's action promulgating a federal implementation plan for the State of Arkansas. EPA unlawfully promulgated that plan in spite of this Court's stay of EPA's predicate disapproval of Arkansas's state implementation plan. *See Order, Arkansas v. EPA*, No. 23-1320 (8th Cir. May 25, 2023). Arkansas's petition for review of EPA's action promulgating its federal implementation plan is currently pending in this Court, and is being held in abeyance pending this Court's review of EPA's predi-

RECEIVED

cate denial of Arkansas's state implementation plan. *See Order, Arkansas v. EPA*, No. 23-2769

JUN 03 2024

**U.S. COURT OF APPEALS
EIGHTH CIRCUIT**

(8th Cir. Aug. 21, 2023). EPA’s denial of ADEQ’s petition for reconsideration was included as part of EPA’s final rule titled “Partial Denial of Petitions for Reconsideration: Federal ‘Good Neighbor Plan’ for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards,” published in the Federal Register at 89 Fed. Reg. 23,526 (Apr. 4, 2024). *See* Fed. R. App. P. 15(a)(2)(C) (providing that a petition for review may challenge only a “part” of an agency order). A copy of EPA’s final rule is attached to this Petition as Exhibit A.

This Court has jurisdiction, and is the proper venue for this action, under 42 U.S.C. 7607(b)(1) because Petitioners are seeking review only of the portion of the final rule denying Arkansas’s petition for reconsideration of EPA’s promulgating a federal implementation plan for Arkansas, which is a “locally or regionally applicable action.” *See* 42 U.S.C. 7607(b)(1) (providing that a “petition for review of the Administrator’s action in approving or promulgating any implementation plan under section 7410 of this title . . . may be filed only in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit”). In addition, the final rule only denied petitions for reconsideration of EPA’s actions promulgating federal implementation plans for two States in this Circuit—Arkansas and Minnesota.

This petition for review is timely filed within sixty days of the date of publication in the Federal Register. 42 U.S.C. 7607(b)(1).

Dated: June 3, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

TIM GRIFFIN
Arkansas Attorney General

NICHOLAS J. BRONNI
Arkansas Solicitor General

DYLAN L. JACOBS
Deputy Solicitor General

ASHER L. STEINBERG
Senior Assistant Solicitor General

OFFICE OF THE ARKANSAS
ATTORNEY GENERAL
323 Center St., Suite 200
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-6302
Nicholas.Bronni@arkansasag.gov

Counsel for Petitioners

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I caused a true and correct copy of this petition for review to be served on June 3, 2024,

by United States first-class mail, on the following:

Michael S. Regan, Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of the Administrator (1101A)
Mail Code 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Correspondence Control Unit
Office of General Counsel (2311)
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General of the United States
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Todd Kim
Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Environment and Natural Resources Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

/s/ Nicholas J. Bronni

Nicholas J. Bronni

Exhibit A

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2024-06940 Filed 4-3-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Parts 52, 75, 78, and 97****[EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0668; FRL-11810-01-OAR]****Partial Denial of Petitions for Reconsideration: Federal “Good Neighbor Plan” for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards****AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notification of action partially denying petitions for reconsideration and administrative stays.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing notice that it has responded to petitions for reconsideration and administrative stay of a final action under the “good neighbor” or “interstate transport” provision of the Clean Air Act (CAA) published in the **Federal Register** on June 5, 2023, titled “Federal ‘Good Neighbor Plan’ for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards” (“Good Neighbor Plan”). In August 2023, the EPA received the four petitions addressed by this action, which seek reconsideration of the Good Neighbor Plan in part on the basis of stays pending judicial review as to certain States issued after the Good Neighbor Plan was promulgated. The EPA is partially denying these four petitions as to this basis. The basis for EPA’s action is set out fully in an enclosure accompanying the response letters, available in the docket for this action. Because the EPA is denying the reconsideration requests, the EPA is also denying associated requests to stay the Good Neighbor Plan filed by two of the four petitioners. At this time, the EPA is not addressing other grounds for reconsideration of the Good Neighbor Plan that have been raised by these or other petitioners.

DATES: April 4, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Thomas Uher, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Air Quality Policy Division, 109 T.W. Alexander Drive, Mail Code C539-04, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711; phone number: (919) 541-5534; email address: uher.thomas@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Where can I get copies of this document and other related information?**

A copy of this **Federal Register** document, the petitions,¹ the letters denying the four petitions and the accompanying enclosure² describing the full basis for the partial denial of these petitions and associated stay requests, and other materials related to this action are available in the docket that the EPA established for the Good Neighbor Plan rulemaking, under Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0668.

All documents in the docket are listed at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Some information may not be publicly available, *i.e.*, Confidential Business Information or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically at <https://www.regulations.gov> or in hard copy at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center, William Jefferson Clinton West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the Office of Air and Radiation Docket is (202) 566-1742.

¹ The four petitions are styled respectively as: Petition for Reconsideration and Stay of the Final Rule: Federal “Good Neighbor Plan” for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards submitted on behalf of United States Steel Corporation; Petition for Reconsideration and Stay of the Final Rule: Federal “Good Neighbor Plan” for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards submitted on behalf of ALLETE, Inc. d/b/a Minnesota Power; Northern States Power Company—Minnesota; Great River Energy; Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency; Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc.; and United States Steel Corporation (collectively the “Minnesota Good Neighbor Coalition”); Petition for Reconsideration of the Final Rule for the Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Arkansas; Federal “Good Neighbor Plan” for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards submitted on behalf of the Arkansas Department of Energy & Environment, Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ); and Administrative Petition for Reconsideration of the Federal “Good Neighbor Plan” for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards submitted on behalf of Hybar LLC.

² See “The EPA’s Basis for Partially Denying Petitions for Reconsideration of the Good Neighbor Plan On Grounds Related to Judicial Stays of the SIP Disapproval Action as to 12 States.”

II. Description of Action

On March 15, 2023, the EPA promulgated the Good Neighbor Plan, which established Federal implementation plan (FIP) requirements for sources in 23 States to address “good neighbor” obligations under CAA section 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(I) for the 2015 ozone NAAQS. Following the finalization and publication of the Good Neighbor Plan, several parties filed petitions with the EPA seeking reconsideration and/or an administrative stay of the Good Neighbor Plan, pursuant to either the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 705, or CAA Act section 307, 42 U.S.C. 7607. Four of these petitions expressly sought reconsideration by the Agency specifically on grounds related to the issuance of partial judicial stay orders of the separate State implementation plan (SIP) disapproval action (88 FR 9336; Feb. 13, 2023) that had been entered as to several of the States covered by the Good Neighbor Plan.

In the denial letters, the EPA explains that it is partially denying these four petitions for reconsideration, because the objections are not “centrally relevant” to the Good Neighbor Plan in the sense that, having considered the two issues raised in relation to the judicial stays, the EPA found they provide no basis on which the Good Neighbor Plan should be modified or withdrawn. The enclosure to the denial letters articulates the rationale for the EPA’s final response and is available in the docket for this action.

III. Judicial Review

This final action may be challenged in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Pursuant to CAA section 307(b)(1), petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in that court within 60 days after the date notice of this final action is published in the **Federal Register**.

CAA section 307(b)(1) governs judicial review of final actions by the EPA. This section provides, in part, that petitions for review must be filed in the D.C. Circuit: (1) when the Agency action consists of “nationally applicable regulations promulgated, or final actions taken, by the Administrator,” or (2) when the Agency action is locally or regionally applicable, if “such action is based on a determination of nationwide scope or effect and if in taking such action the Administrator finds and publishes that such action is based on such a determination.” Numerous petitions for review of the Good Neighbor Plan are currently proceeding

before the D.C. Circuit. For the same reasons that the D.C. Circuit is the appropriate venue for challenges to the Good Neighbor Plan, it is also the appropriate venue for any challenges to this final action.

This action is “nationally applicable” within the meaning of CAA section 307(b)(1) because it denies petitions to reconsider and stay the Good Neighbor Plan, which is itself a nationally applicable action. 88 FR 36654 at 36860; *see also* Order, *Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet v. EPA*, No. 23–3605 (6th Cir. Nov. 9, 2023). On its face, the Good Neighbor Plan is nationally applicable because it applies nationally consistent standards and uniform methodologies to 23 States located in ten of the eleven regional Federal judicial circuits across the Nation. 88 FR 36654 at 36860. Although the Good Neighbor Plan is temporarily stayed in 12 States as a result of pending litigation, *see* notes 4 and 5 *supra*, these temporary stays do not alter the rule’s national applicability.³ This denial is likewise nationally applicable because the result of this partial denial of the four petitions identified herein is that the existing Good Neighbor Plan remains in place and undisturbed—and because any judicial order disturbing the EPA’s reasoning herein would impact sources, states, and other parties across multiple judicial circuits.

In the alternative, to the extent a court finds this action or a relevant portion thereof to be locally or regionally applicable, the Administrator hereby makes and publishes a finding that the action is based on several determinations of “nationwide scope or effect” within the meaning of CAA section 307(b)(1). These determinations, which lie at the core of this action and are the primary aspects of the Good Neighbor Plan that petitioners ask the EPA to reconsider, include: the determination that the Good Neighbor Plan is lawful and implementable as applied in any individual state even if it is not in effect for any other particular

State or group of States; the determination that the Good Neighbor Plan is premised on a series of national-scale analyses that are not limited in scope to any particular geography or group of States; and the determination that the Good Neighbor Plan need not be reconsidered as to any group of sources or States on the basis that publication of the Good Neighbor Plan in the **Federal Register** occurred following the issuance of preliminary judicial stay orders as to several States.

Michael S. Regan,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2024–06912 Filed 4–3–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 2

[WT Docket No. 19–348; DA 24–233; FRS 212104]

Facilitating Shared Use in the 3100–3550 MHz Band; Correction

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Correcting amendment.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission published a document in the **Federal Register** of March 25, 2024, concerning a non-substantive, editorial revision made by the Wireless Telecommunication Bureau and the Office of Engineering and Technology (WTB/OET) to the Table of Frequency Allocations in the Commission’s Rules (Table 22), which identifies coordinates for Department of Defense Cooperative Planning Areas (CPAs) and Periodic Use Areas (PUAs). The document contained an incorrect instruction regarding the revision to Table 22. This document sets out the correct instruction to amend Table 22.

DATES: Effective April 4, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas Reed, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Mobility Division, (202) 418–0531 or Thomas.reed@fcc.gov. For information

regarding the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) information collection requirements, contact Cathy Williams, Office of Managing Director, at 202–418–2918 or cathy.williams@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Correction

In the **Federal Register** of March 25, 2024, 89 FR 20548, WTB/OET deleted as redundant, the Norfolk, Virginia Cooperative Planning Area (Norfolk CPA) from the list of CPAs and PUA’s in Table 22, and renamed the Norfolk CPA, the Newport News-Norfolk CPA/PUA. However, the amendment in instruction 2 could not be incorporated as instructed. This document corrects the instruction to amend Table 22.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 2

Administrative practice and procedures, Common carriers, Communications, Communications common carriers, Communications equipment, Disaster assistance, Environmental impact statements, Imports, Radio, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Satellites, Telecommunications, Television, Wiretapping and electronic surveillance.

Accordingly, 47 CFR part 2 is corrected by making the following correcting amendment:

PART 2—FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS AND RADIO TREATY MATTERS; GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 2 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 302a, 303, and 336, unless otherwise noted.

■ 2. In § 2.106, in paragraph (c)(431), amend table 22 by removing the entry “Norfolk * (includes Fort Story SESEF range)” and adding in its place the entry “Newport News-Norfolk * (includes Fort Story SESEF range)” to read as follows:

§ 2.106 Table of Frequency Allocations.

*	*	*	*	*
(c)	*	*	*	
(431)	*	*	*	

³ Upon the conclusion of the separate supplemental rulemaking, the Good Neighbor Plan may also apply in up to five additional States. *See* 89 FR 12666 (Feb. 24, 2024).