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7 8		S DISTRICT COURT RICT OF CALIFORNIA					
	NORTHERN DISTR	MCI OF CALIFORNIA					
9							
10	CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	Civ. No.					
11	and	COMPLAINT					
12	CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL	(Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 et seq)					
13	HEALTH						
14	Plaintiffs,						
15	VS.						
16 17	ANDREW R. WHEELER, in his official capacity as Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency,						
18	Defendant.						
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INTRODUCTION

1. This action is brought under the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 – 7671q,
and seeks to compel the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency
("EPA") to carry out his outstanding legal obligations to: (1) promulgate a Federal
Implementation Plan ("FIP") addressing a permitting rule for the Mendocino County Air Quality
Management District; (2) take final action on 51 state implementation plan elements submitted
by the state of California to implement the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS for the Eastern Kern
(Kern County) nonattainment area; (3) take final action on the Rule No. 428 (New Source
Review Requirements for New and Modified Major Sources in Federally Designated
Nonattainment Areas) submitted by the state of California to meet the moderate nonattainment
requirements under the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS for the Northern Sierra Air Quality
Management District; and (4) take final action on 7 state implementation plan elements
submitted by the state of Colorado to implement the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS for the Denver
Metro/North Front Range nonattainment area.

- 2. Ozone air pollution has profound effects on human health. EPA has found that short and long-term exposure to ozone can result in "enhanced respiratory symptoms in asthmatic individuals, school absences, and premature mortality." 73 Fed. Reg. 16,436, 16,440 (Mar. 27, 2008). Individuals particularly sensitive to ozone exposure include older adults, people with heart and lung disease, people who work and exercise outdoors, and children. *See* 78 Fed. Reg. 3086, 3088 (Jan. 15, 2013); 62 Fed. Reg. 38,653, 38,668 (July 18, 1997); 73 Fed. Reg. 16,436, 16,440 (Mar. 27, 2008).
- 3. EPA also found that some plant species are especially sensitive to ozone pollution, which stunts growth, interferes with photosynthesis, and increases susceptibility to disease, weather, and insects. These negative impacts have a damaging effect on the surrounding ecosystem, including loss of biodiversity, habitat degradation, and water, nutrient, and carbon cycling. Studies link long-term ozone exposure to adverse health effects in birds such inflammation, ruptured blood vessels, lung failure, decreases in egg production and hatching,

INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

lands and waters, and public health through science, policy, and environmental law. Based on the understanding that the health and vigor of human societies and the integrity and wildness of the natural environmental are closely linked, the Center for Biological Diversity is working to secure a future for animals and plants hovering on the brink of extinction, for the ecosystems they need to survive, and for a healthy, livable future for all of us.

- 16. Plaintiff the CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH is an Oakland, California based non-profit organization that helps protect the public from toxic chemicals and promotes business products and practices that are safe for public health and the environment. The Center for Environmental Health works in pursuit of a world in which all people live, work, learn and play in health environments.
- 17. Plaintiffs' members live, work, recreate, travel and engage in activities throughout the areas at issue in this Complaint and will continue to do so on a regular basis. Pollution in the affected areas threatens and damages, and will continue to threaten and damage, the health and welfare of Plaintiffs' members. Pollution diminishes Plaintiffs' members' ability to enjoy the aesthetic qualities and recreational opportunities of the affected area.
- 18. EPA's failure to timely perform the mandatory duties described herein also adversely affects Plaintiffs, as well as their members, by depriving them of procedural protection, opportunities, and information that they are entitled to under the Clean Air Act. Furthermore, EPA's failure to perform its mandatory duties also creates uncertainty for Plaintiffs' members as to whether they are exposed to excess air pollution.
- 19. Defendant ANDREW R. WHEELER is sued in his official capacity as the Administrator of the EPA. In that role, EPA has been charged by Congress with the duty to administer the Clean Air Act, including the mandatory duties at issue in this case.
 - 20. The above injuries will continue until the Court grants the relief requested herein.

STATUTORY FRAMEWORK

21. Congress enacted the Clean Air Act to "speed up, expand, and intensify the war against air pollution in the United States with a view to assuring the air we breathe through the

Nation is wholesome once again." H.R. Rep. No	. 1146, 91st Cong.,	, 2d Sess. 1,1,	1970 U.S.	Code
Cong. & Admin. News 5356, 5356.				

- 22. Commensurate with this goal, Congress authorized the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards ("NAAQS") for "criteria pollutants," which are air pollutants that "cause or contribute to air pollution which may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health or welfare." 42 U.S.C. § 7408(a)(1)(A).
- 23. There are primary and secondary NAAQS. *Id.* § 7409(a)(1)(A). Primary NAAQS provide for "an adequate margin of safety...to protect the public health," while secondary NAAQS "protect the public welfare from any known or anticipated adverse effects associated with the presence of such air pollutants in the ambient air." *Id.* § 7409(b)(1)-(2).
- 24. After promulgating a new or revised NAAQS, EPA determines whether geographic areas are designated nonattainment (areas that do not meet the primary or secondary NAAQS), attainment (areas that meet the primary or secondary NAAQS), or unclassifiable (areas that cannot be classified based on available information). *Id.* § 7407(d)(1)(A).
- 25. States are required to submit State Implementation Plans ("SIPs") and plan revisions that "provide for the implementation, maintenance, and enforcement" of any NAAQS. *Id.* § 7410(a)(1).
- 26. Within six months of a state submitting a SIP, EPA must make a completeness finding. If a determination is not made within six months of submittal, the plan submission is deemed administratively complete by operation of law. *Id.* § 7410(k)(1)(B).
- 27. EPA is required to take final action to approve, disapprove, or provide a conditional approval or disapproval within twelve months of a SIP submittal being administratively complete. *Id.* § 7410(k)(2)-(4).
- 28. Within two years of EPA finding that a state failed to submit a required SIP or disapproval of a SIP submittal, EPA must promulgate a Federal Implementation Plan. *Id.* § 7410(c).

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

A. <u>Mendocino County Air Quality Management District: 2008 8-hour Ozone</u> NAAQS

- 29. On July 3, 2017, EPA published a final rule, issuing a limited approval and limited disapproval of Mendocino County Air Quality Management District's revised Rule 1-220 for preconstruction review and permitting under the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS. 82 Fed. Reg. 30, 770 (July 3, 2017).
- 30. EPA issued a limited disapproval because Mendocino County Air Quality Management District's Rule 1-220 conflicted with the Clean Air Act's requirement for prevention of significant deterioration of air quality in areas designated "attainment" or "unclassifiable" for pollutants regulated under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
 - 31. EPA's limited disapproval of Rule 1-220 became effective on August 2, 2017. *Id.*
- 32. As a result, EPA was required to promulgate a FIP no later than August 2, 2019, unless the state of California submits and EPA approves a revised SIP, correcting the deficiencies, before it is required to promulgate a new source review FIP. 42 U.S.C. §7410(c)(1).
- 33. To date, EPA has neither approved a revised SIP nor published a FIP addressing the disapproval of revised Rule 1-220 for the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District.

B. <u>Eastern Kern (Kern County)</u>, California: 2008 8-hour Ozone NAAQS

- 34. On December 11, 2017, EPA issued a finding of failure to submit a SIP addressing most of the requirements for the 2008 ozone NAAQS for the Eastern Kern (Kern County) nonattainment area ("Eastern Kern nonattainment area"). 82 Fed. Reg. 58, 118 (Dec. 11, 2017).
- 35. The state of California subsequently submitted SIPs addressing 51 nonattainment SIP elements for the 2008 ozone NAAQS for the Eastern Kern nonattainment area.
- 36. EPA has a mandatory duty to take final action on SIP submittals within twelve months of those SIP submittals becoming administratively complete. 42 U.S.C. § 7410(k)(2)-(4).

- 37. It has been more than 12 months since the nonattainment SIP elements in Table 1 were deemed or found administratively complete.
- 38. To date, EPA has not taken final action to approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve these nonattainment SIP elements for the Eastern Kern nonattainment area listed in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1

Element	SIP Requirement	Submittal Date	Completion Date (no later than)	Final Action Due Date
1	Contingency Measures Volatile Organic Compounds ("VOC") and Nitrogen Oxides ("NOx")	10/25/17	4/25/2018	4/25/2019
2	Emission Inventory	10/25/2017	4/25/2018	4/25/2019
3	Emission Statement	10/25/2017	4/25/2018	4/25/2019
4	Nonattainment NSR rules - Serious	5/23/2018	8/28/2018	8/28/2019
5	Ozone Attainment Demonstration	10/25/2017	4/25/2018	4/25/2019
6	Available Control Technology ("RACT") Non-Control Technique Guidelines ("CTG") Volatile Organic Compound ("VOC") for Major Sources	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
7	RACT VOC CTG Aerospace	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
8	RACT VOC CTG Auto and Light-Duty Truck Assembly Coatings (2008)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019

1 2 3	9	RACT VOC CTG Bulk Gasoline Plants	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
5	10	RACT VOC CTG Equipment Leaks from Natural Gas/Gasoline Processing Plants	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
6 7 8	11	RACT VOC CTG Factory Surface Coating of Flat Wood Paneling	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
9 10 11	12	RACT VOC CTG Fiberglass Boat Manufacturing Materials (2008)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
12 13	13	RACT VOC CTG Flat Wood Paneling Coatings (2006)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
14 15 16 17	14	RACT VOC CTG Flexible Packaging Printing Materials (2006)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
18 19 20 21	15	RACT VOC CTG Fugitive Emissions from Synthetic Organic Chemical Polymer and Resin Manufacturing Equipment	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
22 23 24	16	RACT VOC CTG Graphic Arts - Rotogravure and Flexography	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
25 26	17	RACT VOC CTG Industrial Cleaning Solvents (2006)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019

1 2	18	RACT VOC CTG Large Appliance Coatings (2007)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
3 4 5	19	RACT VOC CTG Large Petroleum Dry Cleaners	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
6 7 8	20	RACT VOC CTG Leaks from Gasoline Tank Trucks and Vapor Collection Systems	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
9 10 11	21	RACT VOC CTG Leaks from Petroleum Refinery Equipment	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
12 13 14	22	RACT VOC CTG Lithographic Printing Materials and Letterpress Printing Materials (2006)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
15 16 17	23	RACT VOC CTG Manufacture of High- Density Polyethylene, Polypropylene, and Polystyrene Resins	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
18 19 20	24	RACT VOC CTG Manufacture of Pneumatic Rubber Tires	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
21 22 23	25	RACT VOC CTG Manufacture of Synthesized Pharmaceutical Products	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
242526	26	RACT VOC CTG Metal Furniture Coatings (2007)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019

27	RACT VOC CTG Miscellaneous Industrial Adhesives (2008)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
28	RACT VOC CTG Miscellaneous Metal Products Coatings (2008)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
29	RACT VOC CTG Paper, Film, and Foil Coatings (2007)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
30	RACT VOC CTG Petroleum Liquid Storage in External Floating Roof Tanks	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
31	RACT VOC CTG Plastic Parts Coatings (2008)	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
32	RACT VOC CTG Refinery Vacuum Producing Systems, Wastewater Separators, and Process Unit Turnarounds	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
33	RACT VOC CTG SOCMI Air Oxidation Processes	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
34	RACT VOC CTG SOCMI Distillation and Reactor Processes	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
35	RACT VOC CTG Shipbuilding/repair	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
36	RACT VOC CTG Solvent Metal Cleaning	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
	28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35	Industrial Adhesives (2008) RACT VOC CTG Miscellaneous Metal Products Coatings (2008) RACT VOC CTG Paper, Film, and Foil Coatings (2007) RACT VOC CTG Petroleum Liquid Storage in External Floating Roof Tanks RACT VOC CTG Plastic Parts Coatings (2008) RACT VOC CTG Refinery Vacuum Producing Systems, Wastewater Separators, and Process Unit Turnarounds RACT VOC CTG SOCMI Air Oxidation Processes RACT VOC CTG SOCMI Distillation and Reactor Processes RACT VOC CTG SOCMI Distillation and Reactor Processes RACT VOC CTG SOCMI Distillation and Reactor Processes RACT VOC CTG Solvent Metal	Industrial Adhesives (2008) RACT VOC CTG Miscellaneous Metal Products Coatings (2008) RACT VOC CTG Paper, Film, and Foil Coatings (2007) RACT VOC CTG Petroleum Liquid 30 Storage in External Floating Roof Tanks RACT VOC CTG Plastic Parts Coatings (2008) RACT VOC CTG Refinery Vacuum Producing Systems, Wastewater Separators, and Process Unit Turnarounds RACT VOC CTG 31 SOCMI Air Oxidation Processes RACT VOC CTG SOCMI Distillation and Reactor Processes RACT VOC CTG Shipbuilding/repair RACT VOC CTG RACT VOC CTG Refinery Vacuum Producing Systems, RACT VOC CTG	Industrial Adhesives (2008)

1 2 3	37	RACT VOC CTG Stage I Vapor Control Systems - Gasoline Service Stations	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
5	38	RACT VOC CTG Storage of Petroleum Liquids in Fixed Roof Tanks	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
6 7 8	39	RACT VOC CTG Surface Coating for Insulation of Magnet Wire	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
9 10	40	RACT VOC CTG Surface Coating of Automobiles and Light-Duty Trucks	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
11 12	41	RACT VOC CTG Surface Coating of Cans	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
13 14	42	RACT VOC CTG Surface Coating of Coils	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
15 16	43	RACT VOC CTG Surface Coating of Fabrics	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
17 18	44	RACT VOC CTG Surface Coating of Large Appliances	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
19 20 21	45	RACT VOC CTG Surface Coating of Metal Furniture	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
22 23	46	RACT VOC CTG Surface Coating of Miscellaneous Metal Parts and Products	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
24 25	47	RACT VOC CTG Surface Coating of Paper	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
2627	48	RACT VOC CTG Tank Truck Gasoline	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019

	Loading Terminals			,
49	RACT VOC CTG Use of Cutback Asphalt	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
50	RACT VOC CTG Wood Furniture	8/9/2017	2/9/2018	2/9/2019
51	Reasonable Further Progress ("RFP") Volatile Organic Compound ("VOC") and Nitrogen Oxide ("NOx") Moderate	10/25/2017	04/25/2018	04/25/2019

C. Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District, California: 2008 8-hour Ozone NAAQS

- 39. On September 6, 2016, the state of California submitted a SIP revising Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District's New Source Review regulations to meet the moderate nonattainment requirements under the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS.
- 40. EPA determined that the state of California's submission of Rule No. 428 (New Source Review Requirements for New and Modified Sources in Federally Designated Nonattainment Areas) met the minimum criteria for completeness on September 28, 2016. In any event, the Rule No. 428 submittal would have been deemed complete by no later than March 6, 2017.
- 41. EPA has a mandatory duty to take final action on SIP submittals within twelve months of those SIP submittals becoming administratively complete. 42 U.S.C. § 7410(k)(2)-(4).
- 42. On February 19, 2020, the California Air Resource Commission submitted a revised Rule 428 to EPA for approval into the California SIP, and claimed to "withdraw" its September 6, 2016 submittal of the prior version of the rule. The February 19, 2020 update of the September 6, 2016 submittal does not change the due date for EPA's final action.

43. To date, EPA has not taken final action to approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve this SIP submittal.

D. <u>Denver Metro/North Front Range nonattainment area, Colorado: 2008 8-hour</u> Ozone NAAQS

- 44. On July 3, 2018, EPA issued a final rule regarding SIP revisions for the 2008 ozone NAAQS for the Denver Metro/North Front Range nonattainment area. 83 Fed. Reg. 31, 068 (July 3, 2018). The final rule approved the majority of the SIP submittal except for Regulation No. 7, Section XVI. D-XIX. *Id.* At 31, 070-71.
- 45. The state of Colorado subsequently submitted SIPs addressing 7 nonattainment SIP elements for the 2008 Ozone NAAQS for the Denver Metro/North Front Range nonattainment area.
- 46. It has been more than 12 months since the nonattainment SIP elements in Table 2 were deemed or found administratively complete.
- 47. To date, EPA has not taken final action to approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve these nonattainment SIP elements for the Denver Metro/North Front Range nonattainment area listed in Table 2 below.

TABLE 2

SIP Elements	Submittal Date	Completion Date (no later than)	Final Action Due Date
Reasonably Achievable Control Technology ("RACT") Volatile Organic Compound ("VOC") Control Technique Guideline ("CTG") Metal Furniture Coatings (2007)	5/31/2017	11/30/2017	11/30/2018

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RACT VOC CTG Miscellaneous Metal Products Coatings (2008)	5/31/2017	11/30/2017	11/30/2018
RACT VOC CTG Wood Furniture Manufacturing Operations (1996)	5/31/2017	11/30/2017	11/30/2018
RACT VOC CTG Industrial Cleaning Solvents (2006)	5/31/2017	11/30/2017	11/30/2018
RACT VOC CTG Aerospace (1997)	5/31/2017	11/30/2017	11/30/2018
Reg. No. 7, Section X (Use of Cleaning Solvents)	5/31/2017	11/30/2017	11/30/2018
Reg. No. 7, Section XIX (Control of Emissions from Specific Major Sources of VOC and/or NOx in the 8-Hour Ozone Control Area)	5/31/2017	11/30/2017	11/30/2018

CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

FIRST CLAIM

(Failure to promulgate a FIP for part of Mendocino County's New Source Review Program)

48. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all paragraphs listed above.

68. Grant such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

1	Dated: August 27, 2020	
2		
3		Respectfully submitted,
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