



# 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards: Implications for New and Existing Nonattainment Areas

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**National Association of Regional Councils**

**June 28, 2004**

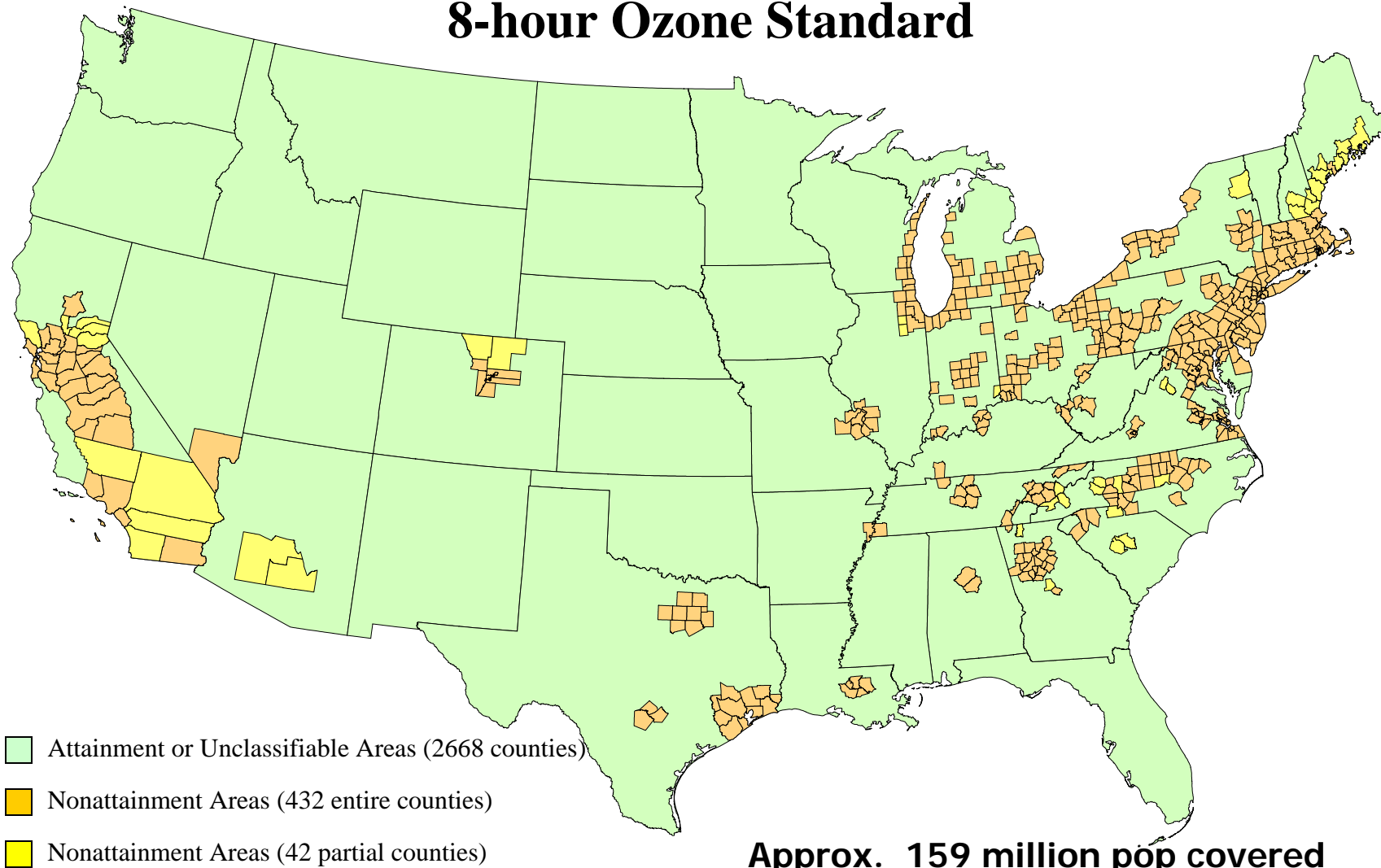
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**Environmental Protection Agency**

# Two new rules published 4/30/04

- **8-hour Ozone designations (126 areas)**
  - Nonattainment areas
    - Basic (Subpart 1) (84 areas)
    - Classified (Subpart 2) (42 areas)
  - Early Action Compact Areas
  - Effective date – June 15, 2004
- **Final 8-hour Implementation (Phase 1)**  
**Rule includes --**
  - Classification scheme
  - Transition from 1-hr to 8-hr standard.

# Attainment and Nonattainment Areas in the U.S. 8-hour Ozone Standard



# 1-hr vs. 8-hr ozone standard implementation

- 1-hour nonattainment areas required to adopt
  - specified mandatory control measures
  - tighter new source review (NSR) rules
  - specified emission reductions over time
- 8-hour rule allows most areas (the “basic” ones) more flexibility:
  - no specified controls (State can choose)
  - less stringent NSR
  - must still show attainment but with less-prescriptive phase in of emission reductions

## Transition: 1-hour to 8-hour standard

- 1-hour standard will be revoked 6/15/05, 1 year after effective date of designations
- Anti-backsliding provisions retain former 1-hour nonattainment controls and planning requirements, however (but not NSR under 1-hour standard)

# 8-hour ozone implementation rule

- **Next Steps**

- **Phase 2:**

- Remainder of rule elements (e.g., RACT, RFP, attainment demonstrations; 8-hr NSR)
    - Planning for signature September 2004

- **Benefits of rule: provides key elements of implementation approach to States so they can plan for meeting the ozone standard.**

- **Main web site:**

<http://www.epa.gov/ozonedesignations>

# Early Action Compact areas

- Compacts for 33 areas covering 14 States were signed by December 31, 2002
- Milestones required for EAC areas to remain eligible
- On April 15, 2004
  - EPA approved deferrals for 13 EAC nonattainment areas (3 EAC areas not deferred)
  - 17 EAC areas included counties that were designated attainment