

The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) held three public meetings, on May 22, May 23, and May 26, 2005 regarding control measures under consideration for adoption by the Ozone Transport Commission (Commission). These meetings were to receive input on a number of action items and recommendations for additional programs to be considered by the Ozone Transport Region (OTR) jurisdictions for implementation to reduce ground-level ozone and its precursors.

The Department also requested comments regarding four specific action items scheduled for consideration and the proposed inclusion in regional ozone air quality modeling of anticipated emission reductions from the candidate control measures. These included:

1. Authorizing a letter to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) urging EPA's adoption of rulemaking to require small engine manufacturers to meet the most stringent technically and economically feasible emission reduction control measures.
2. Directing Commission executive staff to work with staff from Commission jurisdictions to develop revisions to the Commission Consumer Products model rule.
3. Directing Commission executive staff to work with staff from Commission jurisdictions to develop revisions to the Commission Architectural and Industrial Maintenance (AIM) Coatings model rule.
4. Directing Commission executive staff to work with staff from Commission jurisdictions to develop a model rule that mandates the installation and maintenance of software (chip reflashing) to correct the defeat device option on certain heavy-duty diesel engines.

Information regarding the formal actions taken by the OTC states may be found at: <http://www.otcair.org/document.asp?fview=meeting#>

In addition the Department requested comment on the implementation of the potential strategies to address the sulfate, nitrate and organic components of regional haze.

Written comments concerning the candidate control measures under consideration by the OTR and the Mid-Atlantic/Northeast Visibility Union (MANE-VU) jurisdictions were received from 21 commentators. The comments may be accessed below.