

More Areas In California Would Likely Exceed Smog Standards Under Proposal

- [Environment](#)

- [Amy Quinton](#)

Monday, February 2, 2015 | Sacramento, CA | [Permalink](#)

[play](#)



Amy Quinton / Capital Public Radio

Protestors called for cleaner air at a rally outside CAL-EPA's headquarters. Inside, the US-EPA held a day-long hearing on strengthening the limits on ozone pollution from the current 75 parts per billion to between 65 and 70 parts per billion.

"I spend more time inside than I do outside," says Jimmy Slover, a Sacramento resident with emphysema. "Not fair.

Not Fair to me or the millions who are suffering like me," says Slover. He told EPA officials that strengthening the standard is a matter of public health.

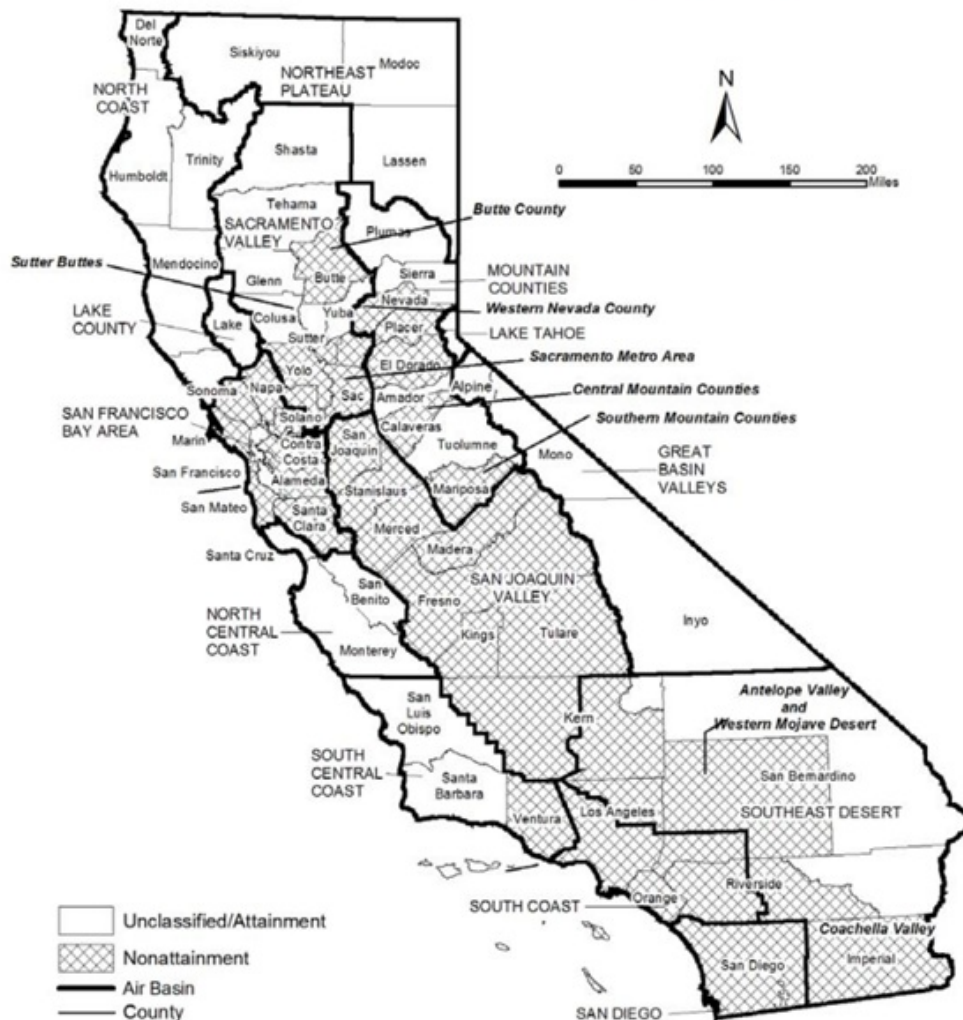
But Ted Striechen with the American Petroleum Institute says toughening the ozone limit would harm the economy because too many parts of the country can't meet the current standard.

"Decreasing the ozone standards could put almost the entire country out of compliance," says Striechen.

The California Air Resources Board says the state has 16 regions that are not meeting the current standard. More rural, mountainous and less populated areas of California would likely exceed federal limits if the new standard is approved. States that fail to provide a clean air plan risk losing federal transportation dollars.

It could take six to ten years before final implementation.

Area Designations for National Ambient Air Quality Standards 8-HOUR OZONE



Source Date:
June 2013
Air Quality Planning Branch, AQPSD

TABLE 11

**National Ambient Air Quality Standards
Area Designations for 8-Hour Ozone***

	N	U/A		N	U/A
GREAT BASIN VALLEYS AIR BASIN		X	SACRAMENTO VALLEY AIR BASIN (cont.)		
LAKE COUNTY AIR BASIN		X	Yolo County (2)	X	
LAKE TAHOE AIR BASIN		X	Yuba County		X
MOUNTAIN COUNTIES AIR BASIN			SAN DIEGO COUNTY	X	
Amador County		X	SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA AIR BASIN	X	
Calaveras County	X		SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY AIR BASIN	X	
El Dorado County (portion) (2)	X		SOUTH CENTRAL COAST AIR BASIN (1)		
Mariposa County	X		San Luis Obispo County		
Nevada County			- Eastern San Luis Obispo County	X	
- Western Nevada County	X		- Remainder of County		X
- Remainder of County		X	Santa Barbara County		X
Placer County (portion) (2)	X		Ventura County		
Plumas County		X	- Area excluding Anacapa and San Nicolas Islands	X	
Sierra County		X	- Channel Islands (1)		X
Tuolumne County		X	SOUTH COAST AIR BASIN (1)	X	
NORTH CENTRAL COAST AIR BASIN		X	SOUTHEAST DESERT AIR BASIN		
NORTH COAST AIR BASIN		X	Kern County (portion)	X	
NORTHEAST PLATEAU AIR BASIN		X	- Indian Wells Valley		X
SACRAMENTO VALLEY AIR BASIN			Imperial County	X	
Butte County	X		Los Angeles County (portion)	X	
Colusa County		X	Riverside County (portion)		
Glenn County		X	- Coachella Valley	X	
Sacramento Metro Area (2)	X		- Non-AQMA portion		X
Shasta County		X	San Bernardino County		
Sutter County			- Western portion (AQMA)	X	
- Southern portion of Sutter County (2)	X		- Eastern portion (non-AQMA)		X
- Remainder of Sutter County		X			
Tehama County					
- Tuscan Buttes	X				
- Remainder of Tehama County		X			

* Definitions and references for all areas can be found in 40 CFR, Chapter I, Part 81.305.

(1) South Central Coast Air Basin Channel Islands:

Santa Barbara County includes Santa Cruz, San Miguel, Santa Rosa, and Santa Barbara Islands.

Ventura County includes Anacapa and San Nicolas Islands.

South Coast Air Basin:

Los Angeles County includes San Clemente and Santa Catalina Islands.

(2) For this purpose, the Sacramento Metro Area comprises all of Sacramento and Yolo Counties, the Sacramento Valley Air Basin portion of Solano County, the southern portion of Sutter County, and the Sacramento Valley and Mountain Counties Air Basins portions of Placer and El Dorado counties.

- **Amy Quinton**

Environment Reporter

Amy came to Sacramento from New Hampshire Public Radio (NHPR) where she was the Environment Reporter. Amy has also reported for NPR member stations WFAE in Charlotte, NC, WAMU in Washington D.C. and American Public Media's "Marketplace." [Read Full Bio](#)

[Email Amy Quinton](#)

