

What's at Stake for Louisiana with New Ozone Regulations?

Manufacturers Face Billions in Costs for Ozone Regulation. The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new ozone regulation is one of the most expensive regulations in U.S. history. We have made incredible progress over the past 35 years, cutting ozone levels by one-third nationwide. This progress will continue without the new ozone rule.

No-Growth Zones Expand in Louisiana, Growth Stifled. Despite decades of air quality improvements, the administration decided to throw hundreds of counties and parishes into nonattainment, stifling growth in many parts of the country. Up to 17 parishes in Louisiana exceed the EPA's new standards, parishes that are home to 51,257 manufacturing jobs. The barriers created by nonattainment are impacting manufacturers today.

Local Voices Disregarded. Ignoring pleas from leaders in Louisiana, the administration chose to set new targets before communities across the country could come into compliance with the 2008 ozone standards.

Outdated Law Ignores Current State of the Environment, Lacks Flexibility. The administration set ozone standards so strict that many communities find themselves in nonattainment despite the fact that the majority of their ozone comes from natural sources or sources in foreign countries.

Rigid and Unrealistic Deadlines Rarely Met, Make Little Sense. Unrealistically short five-year "review cycles" for ozone and other air quality standards lead to overlapping regulations. The EPA regularly exceeds these five-year deadlines, opening the door to lawsuits and creating an uncertain regulatory landscape for manufacturers.

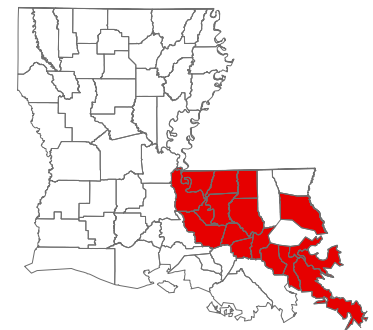
Time for Congress to Restore Balance. Manufacturers need Congress to step up, provide much-needed implementation relief and revise this decades-old policy to give states more flexibility and adopt a policy that better reflects manufacturing and the 21st-century economy.

"It is unclear why EPA is unwilling to let the current standard remain in effect and allow areas to realize emission reductions with current control strategies and then proceed, if necessary, to a strengthening of the NAAQS."

— Peggy Hatch, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Comments on the EPA's Proposed National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone (March 17, 2015)

Figure 1: Areas Exceeding the EPA's 2015 Ozone Standards (70 ppb)

- Areas with Monitors
- Unmonitored but Likely to Exceed 70 ppb



Based on a three-year period, 2012–2014.
Sources: URS, August 3, 2015; ESRI

Parishes in Louisiana Exceeding the EPA's Ozone Standards

at Risk to Be No-Grow Zones

Parish	Ozone Level (ppb)
Ascension Parish	72
East Baton Rouge Parish	72
East Feliciana Parish	72
Iberville Parish	72
Livingston Parish	72
Pointe Coupee Parish	72
St. Helena Parish	72
West Baton Rouge Parish	72
West Feliciana Parish	72
Jefferson Parish	71
Orleans Parish	71
Plaquemines Parish	71
St. Bernard Parish	71
St. Charles Parish	71
St. James Parish	71
St. John the Baptist Parish	71
St. Tammany Parish	71

Based on a three-year period, 2012–2014; modeled and interpolated data.
Sources: URS, August 3, 2015; ESRI

www.nam.org/ozone