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Title of Abstract: Projected Attainment Status of Each County in the U.S. with the PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards Based on 1999-2001 Monitoring Data and Strategies for Dealing with Nonattainment Designations

Air quality monitoring data collected by state and local government agencies between 1999 and 2001 for fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) at over 1,000 sites in the U.S. are indicating the likelihood of widespread designations of nonattainment of the annual PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) of 15.0 ug/m³. U.S. EPA is requiring states to use the first three years of PM_{2.5} monitoring data that meet certain data completeness criteria to make PM_{2.5} attainment designations. The purpose of this paper is to project the PM_{2.5} attainment status of each county in the U.S. based on 1999-2001 monitoring results and to discuss strategies for dealing with the expected widespread nonattainment designations. These strategies including evaluating the feasibility of a "Primary First" control strategy for PM_{2.5} where reductions in primary emissions of PM_{2.5} from local sources are made first and where secondary emission reductions from distant sources especially including power generation are only used to complete the attainment demonstration. We discuss the potential cost effectiveness of this Primary First approach and ideas for providing an equitable sharing of the costs of a Primary First control strategy.

Note: A similar but earlier version of this presentation without all the same data is being given at the 6th annual Electric Utilities Environmental Conference on "Air Quality & Global Climate Change" to be held January 27-30, 2003 at Loew's Ventana Canyon Resort, Tucson, Arizona. The EUCEC presentation will not involve a written paper and we have the right to present the written form of this paper with additional data at the AWMA meeting.