



PM 2.5 Designation Process and Timeline

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

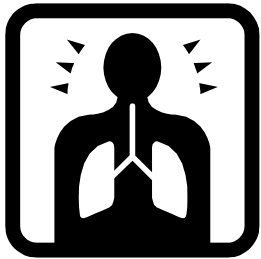
July 28, 2004

Overview

- Why Regulate Particle Pollution?
- Timeline for PM 2.5 Designations
- State Recommendations
- EPA Responses
- Comparison of 8-Hour and PM 2.5 Timelines

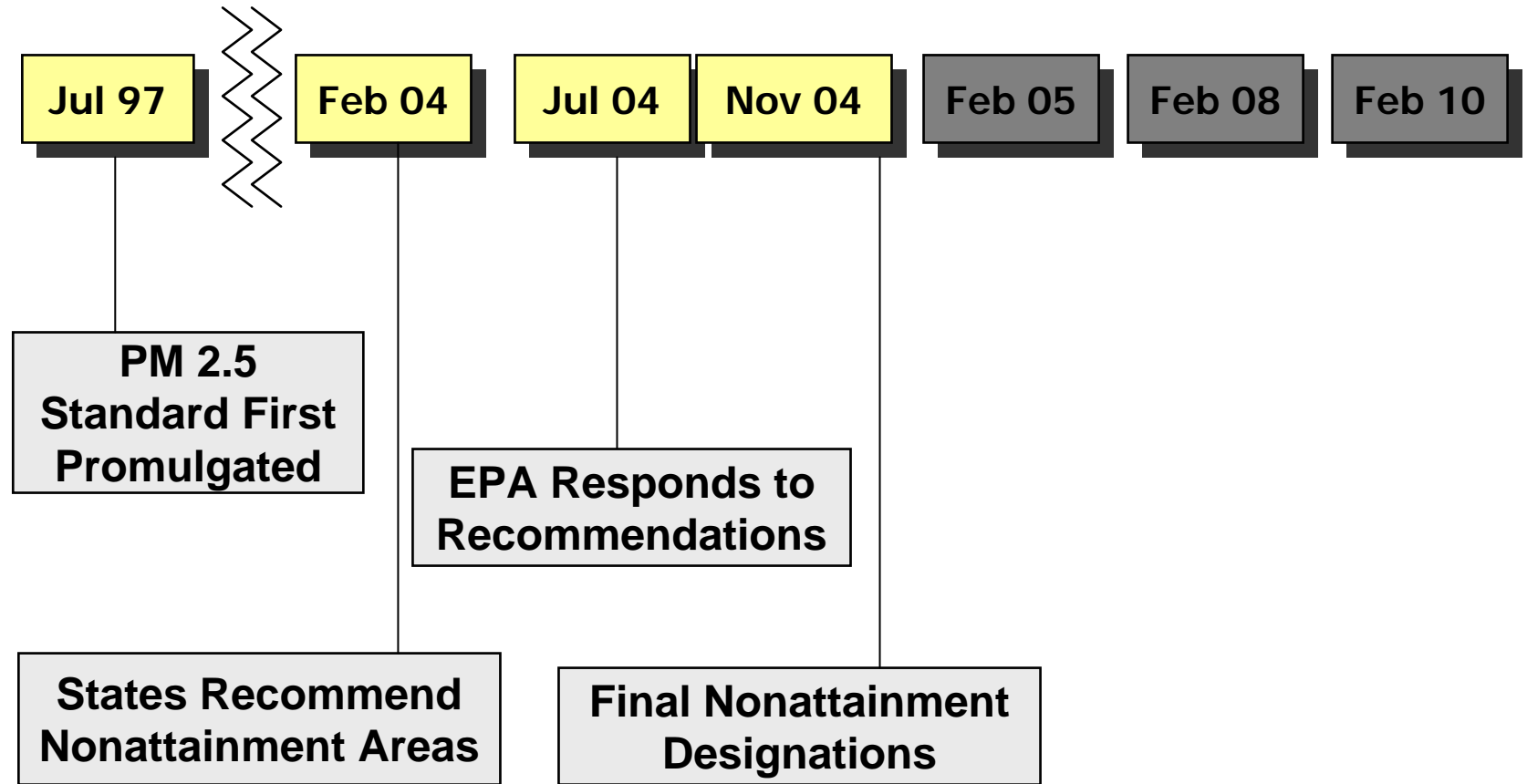
Why Regulate Particle Pollution?

Particle pollution is microscopic solid and liquid droplets suspended in air.

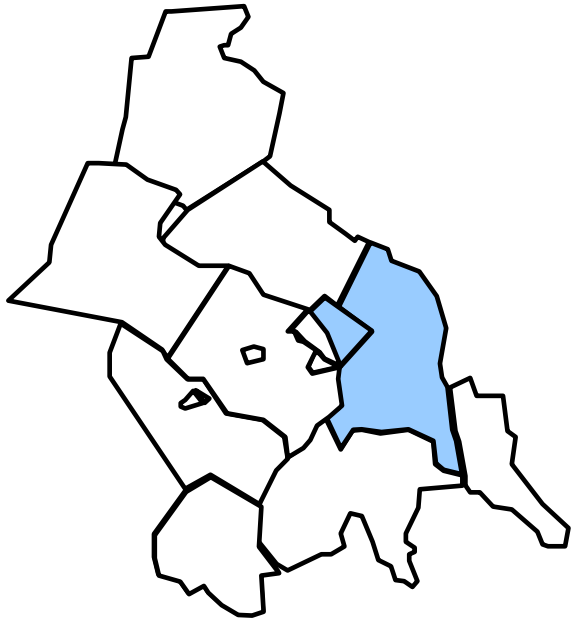


- Fine particles (PM 2.5) are less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter.
- Fine particles become stuck deep in the lungs or enter the bloodstream, causing severe health problems for asthmatics and people with lung or heart disease.

Designation Process Not Yet Complete



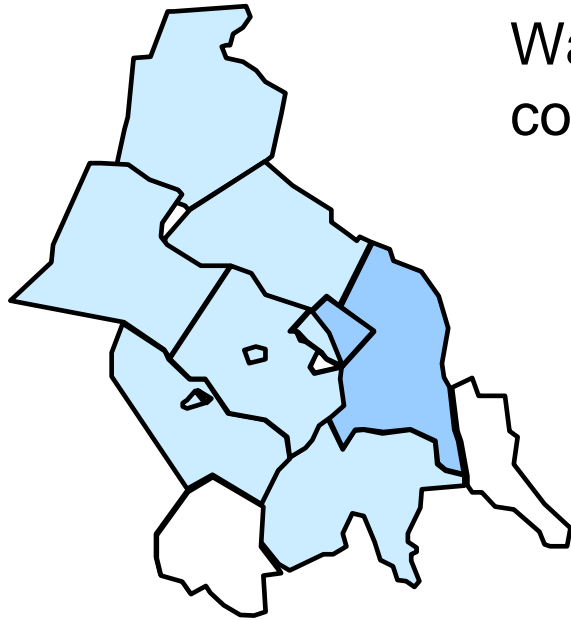
States Recommend 2 Jurisdictions



States recommended that only counties showing PM 2.5 nonattainment be designated:

- District of Columbia
- Prince George's

EPA Recommends Additional Areas

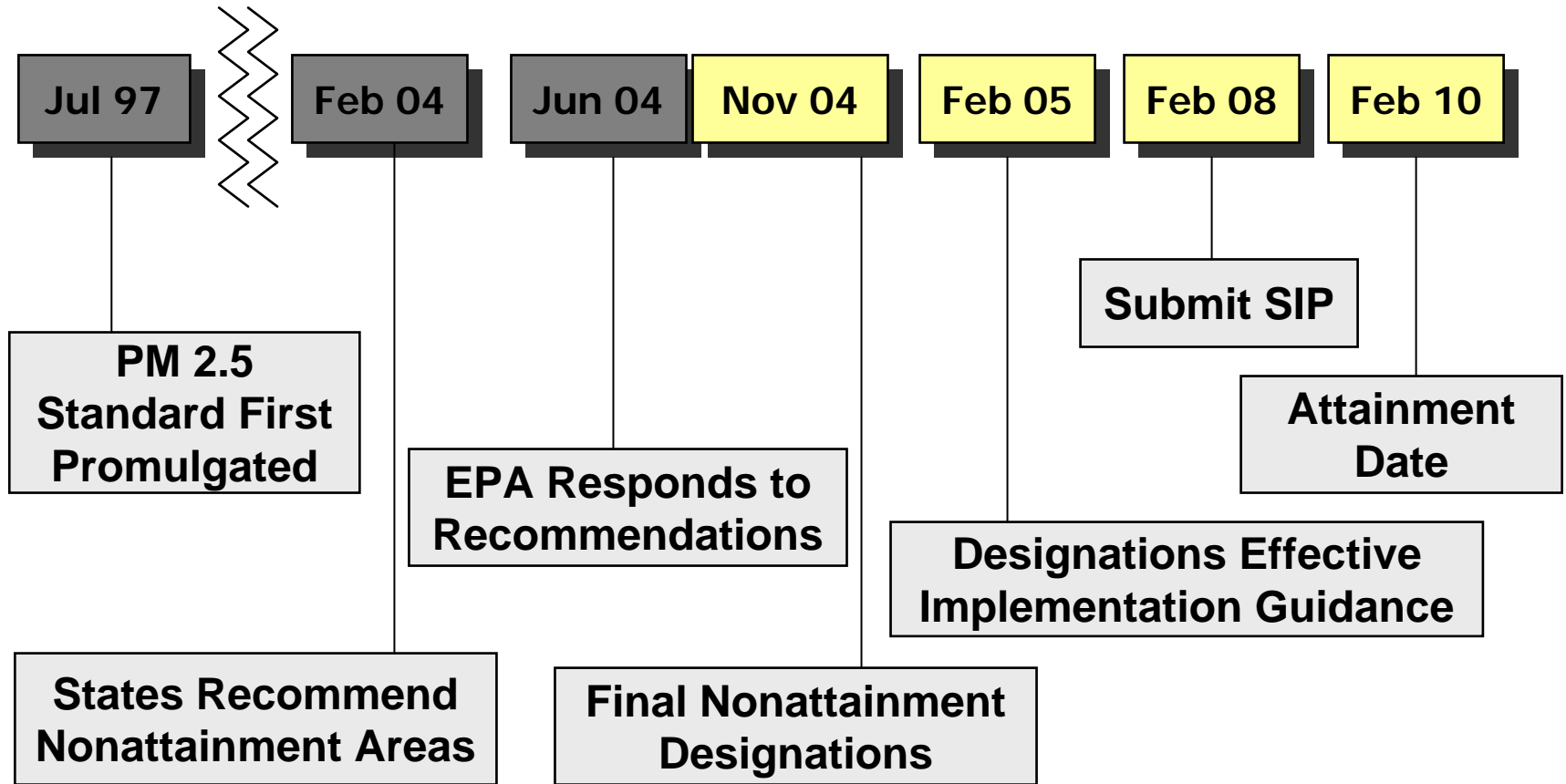


EPA evaluated all counties in the Washington MSA to determine whether they contribute to nonattainment in the region

- Emission sources
- Population density/urbanization
- Traffic and commuting patterns
- Expected growth

EPA intends to recommend that the entire 8-hour nonattainment area be designated, excluding Calvert County.

PM 2.5 Planning Horizon



Comparison of Planning Horizons

PM 2.5

Jul 97

Nov 04

Feb 05

N/A

Feb 05

Feb 08

Feb 10

**Standard First
Promulgated**

**Final Nonattainment
Designations**

**Designations Become
Effective**

**Previous Standard
Revoked**

**Implementation Guidance
Issued**

Submit SIP

Attainment Date

8-Hour Ozone

Jul 97

Apr 04

Jun 04

Jun 05

Apr 04

Sep 04

Jun 07

Jun 10

For More Information



- State Recommendations
- EPA Responses
- Fact Sheet
- Health Effects
- Timeline

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