

Emission Reduction Credits (ERCs)

- Typically created from the shutdown of an existing point source (can be created by over-control but that is rare)
- Are needed to New Source Review (a new source coming into a nonattainment area is required to offset its emissions – sometimes above and beyond its operating emissions as a function of nonattainment classification)
- Can be used to meet the requirements of General Conformity



Emission Reduction Credits (ERCs)

- ERCs are a valuable commodity – and a necessary evil for nonattainment areas
- Ozone Nonattainment = NO_x and VOC ERCs
- PM_{2.5} Nonattainment = SO₂, NO_x and PM_{2.5} ERCs
- ERC availability can vary significantly by nonattainment areas



ERCs and Point Source Growth

- ERCs must be carried through the inventory process
- The no-growth forecasts from MARAMA do not preserve ERCs and actually decrease their future value
- MD does not see a value in forecasting negative growth for the non-egu point sources and would rather be conservative to preserve ERCs

