

DRAFT 2021 REGIONAL SULFUR DIOXIDE EMISSIONS AND MILESTONE REPORT

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1. Clean Air Act and EPA's Regional Haze Rule
2. How Sulfur Dioxide Impacts Visibility
3. Albuquerque – Bernalillo County's Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP)
4. 2021 Regional Emissions and Milestone
5. Public Participation and Air Board Approval

Federal Clean Air Act

“Congress hereby declares as a national goal the prevention of any future, and the remedying of any existing, impairment of visibility in mandatory class I Federal areas which impairment results from manmade air pollution.”

-Section 169A

EPA's Regional Haze Rule

- Issued in 1999
- Requires states to adopt implementation plans to improve visibility at mandatory Class I areas
 - 156 areas nationwide
 - 9 areas in New Mexico
 - Closest to Albuquerque is Bandelier Wilderness Area
- Goal = natural visibility by 2064

How Sulfur Dioxide Impacts Visibility

- Largest source of sulfur dioxide is the burning of fossil fuels by power plants and other industrial facilities
- Sulfur dioxide reacts with other compounds in the atmosphere to form fine particles
- Particle pollution is the main cause of reduced visibility

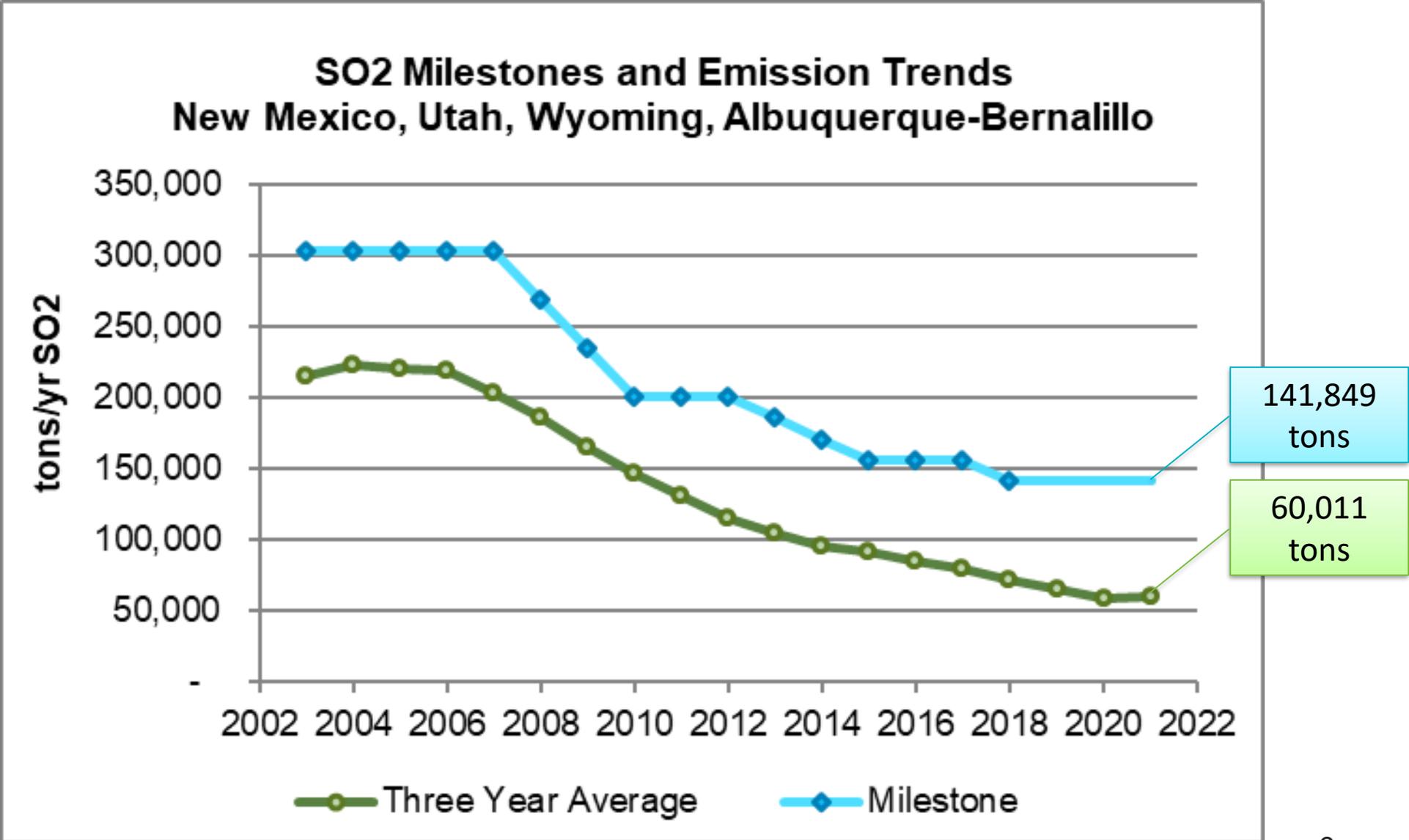
Albuquerque – Bernalillo County's Regional Haze SIP

- Adopted in 2003; Revised in 2008 and 2011
- Covers the first regional haze planning period (through 2018), but certain provisions continue into future years
- Addresses sulfur dioxide through the SO₂ Milestones and Backstop Trading Program
 - Regional milestones (NM, UT, WY)
 - Emissions tracking for large sources (>100 tons/year)
 - Backstop trading program

2021 Regional Emissions and Milestone

- Reported emissions = 50,730 tons
 - Albuquerque-Bernalillo County: 82 tons
 - New Mexico: 3,374 tons
 - Utah: 10,422 tons
 - Wyoming: 36,852 tons
- Adjusted emissions = 60,011 tons
- Milestone = 141,849 tons

The 2021 Milestone has not been Exceeded



Public Participation and Air Board Approval

- Published notice on February 1
 - ABQ Journal, EHD website, EHD listserv
- Public comment period runs from February 1 to March 3
- Air Board's Role:
 - February 8: Allow public comment on draft report
 - March 8 (?): Review and approve final report
- Following Board approval, EHD will submit the final report to EPA and publish notice of final determination that the milestone has been met



QUESTIONS?

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REFERENCES

- Albuquerque Journal: *Notice of Availability for Public Comment: Draft 2021 Regional Sulfur Dioxide Emissions and Milestone Report*. February 1, 2023. https://d21yqjvcoayho7.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/legal-display-ads/2023-2-01-CITY-OF-ABQ-ENV_-HEALTH-1563672-01.pdf
- EHD's Website: *Regulation Development Public Notices and Comment Opportunities*. February 1, 2023. <https://www.cabq.gov/airquality/regulation-development/public-notices-and-comment-opportunities>