

State of California  
**Air Resources Board**

**BOARD ITEM SUMMARY**

**ITEM # 20-12-7:      Public Meeting to Consider the Proposed Portola PM2.5 Plan  
Contingency Measure State Implementation Plan Submittal**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Board approve the Proposed Portola PM2.5 Plan Contingency Measure State Implementation Plan (SIP) Submittal for the 2012 12  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) annual standard for submittal to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) as a revision to the California SIP.

**DISCUSSION:**

On February 28, 2017, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) submitted to U.S. EPA the Portola Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) Attainment Plan (Portola Plan) developed by the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District (District). U.S. EPA approved the Portola Plan but deferred action on its contingency measure element required by the Clean Air Act.

To address the concerns that led U.S. EPA to defer action, this SIP includes a contingency measure specifying new actions the District and City of Portola will take to reduce particulate matter pollution from residential wood heating if the Plumas County Nonattainment Area fails to attain the 2012 12  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  PM2.5 annual NAAQS by the applicable attainment date, or fails to meet the reasonable further progress (RFP) or quantitative milestone requirements for the 2022 milestone year. In the event the contingency measure requirement is triggered, the District and City of Portola will implement a more stringent wood burning curtailment program, by extending the curtailment season from four to eight months and lowering the curtailment threshold from 30  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  to 20  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . Once triggered, the lower curtailment threshold and longer curtailment season will continue until U.S. EPA either approves a new SIP for the nonattainment area or determines in writing that the RFP or quantitative milestone failure that triggered the contingency measure has been corrected.

**SUMMARY AND IMPACTS:**

CARB staff determined that emission reductions from this contingency measure, combined with additional surplus reductions estimated to occur after the moderate attainment date of December 31, 2021, are estimated to yield PM2.5 emission reductions approximately equivalent to one year's progress necessary to attain the PM2.5 standard by the attainment deadline, as called for by U.S. EPA guidance. CARB staff further determined that the Proposed Portola PM2.5 Plan Contingency Measure SIP Submittal, supplemented with staff's technical explanation of the

emission reductions associated with the contingency measure and the additional surplus reductions, satisfies the Clean Air Act contingency measure requirements.