

AGENDA ITEM 6

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Agenda Item: Revisions to Ambient Air Quality Standards to Incorporate 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) (534)

Explanation: The Air Quality Committee (AQC) is requested to approve proposed rule revisions on amendments to the ozone rule.

15A NCAC 02D .0405, Ozone, is proposed for amendment to reflect changes to the NAAQS for ozone. These proposed rule changes are necessary to comply with federal requirements.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) strengthened its NAAQS for ozone, also known as O₃, on October 1, 2015 (80 FR 65291). These revisions are the result of USEPA's five-year periodic review of NAAQS as required by the Clean Air Act. USEPA revised the primary and secondary ozone standards from 0.075 ppm, set in 2008, to 0.070 ppm, while retaining the indicators (O₃), forms (fourth-highest daily maximum, averaged across three consecutive years) and averaging times (eight hours). The monitoring season for ozone has also been expanded by one month to ensure compliance with the 2008 and 2015 ozone standards, and to ensure citizens are alerted when ozone reaches levels of concern. The monitoring season changes are effective January 1, 2017.

Recommendation: The Director recommends that the Committee approve the proposed amendments for presentation to the EMC for approval to proceed to public comment.

1 **15A NCAC 02D .0405 OZONE**

2 The ambient air quality standard for ozone measured by a reference method based on Appendix D of 40 CFR Part 50
3 and designated according to 40 CFR Part 53 is ~~0.075~~ 0.070 parts per million (ppm), daily maximum 8-hour average.
4 The standard is attained at an ambient air quality monitoring site when the average of the annual fourth-highest daily
5 maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration is less than or equal to ~~0.075~~ 0.070 parts per million (ppm) as
6 determined by ~~Appendix P~~ Appendix U of 40 CFR Part 50, or equivalent methods established under 40 CFR Part 53.

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8 *History Note: Authority G.S. 143-215.3(a)(1); 143-215.107(a)(3);*

9 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

10 *Amended Eff. November 1, 2017; January 1, 2010; April 1, 1999; July 1, 1984; July 1, 1979;*

11 *December 1, 1976.*