rulemakings which tightened engine standards and required fuel formulations contain reduced levels of sulfur. See 65 FR 6698 (February 10, 2000) and 81 FR 23641 (April 22, 2016). MOVES 2014 modeling results indicate that removing the 26 counties from the expanded I/M program would not increase SO$_2$ emissions. For these reasons, EPA proposes to find that removal of the 26 counties from the SIP-approved expanded I/M program would not interfere with maintenance of the 2010 SO$_2$ NAAQS in the State.

vi. Non-Interference Analysis for 2008 Lead NAAQS

On November 12, 2008 (73 FR 66964), EPA promulgated a revised primary and secondary lead NAAQS of 0.15 µg/m$^3$. Under EPA’s regulations at 40 CFR part 50, the 2008 lead NAAQS are met when the maximum arithmetic 3-month mean concentration for a 3-year period, as determined in accordance with Appendix R of 40 CFR part 50, is less than or equal to 0.15 µg/m$^3$. See 40 CFR 50.16. On November 8, 2011, EPA designated the entire State of North Carolina as unclassifiable/attainment for that NAAQS. See 76 FR 72907. North Carolina’s ambient lead levels have remained well below the standard. The pollution control systems for light-duty gasoline vehicles subject to the I/M program are not designed to reduce emissions for lead; therefore, removing counties from the program will not have any impact on ambient concentrations of lead. MOVES 2014 modeling results indicate that removing 26 counties from the expanded I/M program would not increase lead emissions. For these reasons, EPA proposes to find that removal of the 26 counties from the SIP-approved expanded I/M program would not interfere with maintenance of the 2008 lead NAAQS in the State.

IV. Proposed Action

For the reasons explained above in Section III of this proposed rulemaking, EPA is proposing to approve North Carolina’s November 17, 2017, SIP revision. Specifically, EPA is proposing to approve the removal of Brunswick, Burke, Caldwell, Carteret, Catawba, Chatham, Cleveland, Craven, Edgecombe, Granville, Harnett, Haywood, Henderson, Lenoir, Moore, Nash, Orange, Pitt, Robeson, Randolph, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Wayne, Wilkes, and Wilson counties, from the SIP-approved expanded I/M program.

Additionally, EPA is proposing to find that North Carolina’s removal of the 26 counties from the SIP-approved expanded I/M program will not interfere with the I/M emissions reductions from the credits in North Carolina’s NO$_x$ emissions budget. It will not interfere with the State’s obligations under the NO$_x$ SIP Call to meet its Statewide NO$_x$ emissions budget. In addition, EPA is also proposing to find that the removal of the 26 counties from the SIP-approved expanded I/M program will not interfere with continued attainment or maintenance of any applicable NAAQS or any applicable requirement of the CAA, and that North Carolina has satisfied the requirements of section 110(l) of the CAA.

VI. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under the CAA, the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the Act and applicable Federal regulations. See 42 U.S.C. 7410(k); 40 CFR 52.02(a). Thus, in reviewing SIP submissions, EPA’s role is to approve state choices, provided they meet the criteria of the CAA. This action merely proposes to approve state law as meeting Federal requirements and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. For that reason, this proposed action:

- is not a significant regulatory action subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Orders 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993) and 13563 (76 FR 3821, January 21, 2011);
- is not an Executive Order 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 2, 2017) regulatory action because SIP approvals are exempted under Executive Order 12866;
- is not a significant regulatory action subject to subject to Section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the CAA; and
- is not subject to requirements of Section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the CAA; and
- does not provide EPA with the discretionary authority to address, as appropriate, disproportionate human health or environmental effects, using practicable and legally permissible methods, under Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

The SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where EPA or an Indian tribe has demonstrated that a tribe has jurisdiction. In those areas of Indian country, the rule does not have tribal implications as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000), nor will it impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Carbon monoxide, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Lead, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Particulate matter, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulfur oxides, Volatile organic compounds.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.

Dated: July 16, 2018.

Onis “Trey” Glenn, III, Regional Administrator, Region 4.

[FR Doc. 2018–15813 Filed 7–25–18; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Parts 52 and 70

[FR Doc. 2018–15813 Filed 7–25–18; 8:45 am]

AIR Plan Approval; Iowa; Approval of the State Implementation Plan and the Operating Permits Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to approve revisions to the Iowa State Implementation Plan (SIP), and the Operating Permits Program. The proposed revisions clarify the types of mailing services that may be used for submitting construction and operating permit applications, and clarify that applications are not required to be submitted by certified mail.
I. What is being addressed in this document?

EPA is proposing to approve a submission from the state of Iowa to revise the Iowa SIP and Operating Permits Program. The proposed revisions to the SIP are to clarify the types of mailing services that may be used for submitting permit applications to include the U.S. Postal Service, private parcel delivery services, and hand delivery. Construction permit applications are not required to be submitted by certified mail. The proposed revisions also eliminate the requirement for construction permit applications for projects that will not emit greenhouse gases to submit the current three-page form.

The proposed revisions to the operating permits program clarify the types of mailing services that may be used for submitting operating permit applications to include the U.S. Postal Service, private parcel delivery services, and hand delivery. Operating permit applications are not required to be submitted by certified mail. This proposal to the operating permits program is being made to require only one copy of the operating permit application instead of two.

This proposed action also includes minor grammatical corrections to the SIP for construction permit rules and minor grammatical corrections to the operating permits program rules.

II. Have the requirements for approval of a SIP and the operating permits program revision been met?

The administrative rule amendments in this submission were first published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin as a Notice of Intended Action on January 18, 2017. A public comment period was held from January 18, 2017, to February 20, 2017, with a public hearing on February 20, 2017. EPA submitted a comment during the public comment period stating that the portion of the proposed amendment allowing submittal of a construction permit application or a title V operating permit application by email would not be approved until Iowa’s electronic document receiving system was approved pursuant to the Cross Media Electronic Reporting Rule (CROMERR) at 40 CFR part 2.3.* In response to this comment, Iowa requested an applicability determination from EPA. A response from EPA dated May 25, 2017, was sent to Iowa stating email applications would not be considered CROMERR compliant.

In response to the applicability determination, the state of Iowa amended the rules to remove the provisions for email applications and republished the Notice of Intended Action for public comment on August 16, 2017. A public comment period was held between August 16, 2017 and September 5, 2017, with a public hearing held on September 5, 2017. No comments were received during this period. The submission was sent to EPA on January 4, 2018, and received January 9, 2018.

The state submitted the public notice requirements for SIP submissions in accordance with 40 CFR 51.102. The submittal also satisfied the completeness criteria of 40 CFR part 51, appendix V. In addition, these revisions meet the substantive SIP requirements of the CAA, including section 110 and implementing regulations. These revisions are also consistent with applicable EPA requirements of Title V of the CAA and 40 CFR part 70.

III. What actions are proposed?

EPA is proposing to approve revisions to the Iowa SIP, and the Operating Permits Program. The proposed revisions clarify the types of mailing services that may be used for submitting construction and operating permit applications, and clarify that applications are not required to be submitted by certified mail. The proposed revisions also eliminate the requirement for construction permit applications or projects that will not emit greenhouse gases (GHG) to submit the current separate three-page GHG form. In addition, a revision to the operating permit program is being made to require only one copy of the permit application instead of two. Finally, this proposed action includes minor grammatical corrections.

IV. Incorporation by Reference

In this action, EPA is proposing to include in a final EPA rule regulatory text that includes incorporation by reference. In accordance with requirements of 1 CFR 51.5, EPA is proposing to incorporate by reference the Iowa Regulations described in the amendments to 40 CFR part 52 set forth below. EPA has made, and will continue to make, these materials generally available through www.regulations.gov and at the EPA Region 7 Office (please contact the person identified in the FOR

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* On December 29, 2009 (See 74 FR 68692), EPA did not act on Iowa’s provision that allowed for electronic submittal for construction permit applications (subrule 22.105(1)), and electronic submittal for operating permit applications (subrule 22.105(1)) because Iowa’s electronic document receiving system was not approved pursuant to CROMERR.
FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this preamble for more information).

V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under the Clean Air Act (CAA), the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the Act and applicable Federal regulations. 42 U.S.C. 7410(k); 40 CFR 52.02(a). Thus, in reviewing SIP submissions, EPA’s role is to approve state choices, provided that they meet the criteria of the CAA. Accordingly, this action merely approves state law as meeting Federal requirements and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. For that reason, this action:

- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Orders 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993) and 13563 (76 FR 3821, January 21, 2011);
- Is not an Executive Order 13771 (82 FR 9339, February 2, 2017) regulatory action because SIP approvals are exempted under Executive Order 12866.
- Does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.);
- Is certified as not having a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.);
- Does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–4);
- Does not have Federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);
- Is not an economically significant regulatory action based on health or safety risks subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997);
- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001);
- Is not subject to requirements of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTA) because this rulemaking does not involve technical standards; and
- Does not provide EPA with the discretionary authority to address, as appropriate, disproportionate human health or environmental effects, using practicable and legally permissible methods, under Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

The SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where EPA or an Indian tribe has demonstrated that a tribe has jurisdiction. In those areas of Indian country, the rule does not have tribal implications and will not impose substantial direct costs on tribal governments or preempt tribal law as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000).

List of Subjects
40 CFR Part 52
Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

40 CFR Part 70
Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Air pollution control, Intergovernmental relations, Operating permits, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: July 16, 2018.
James B. Gulliford,
Regional Administrator, Region 7.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, EPA proposes to amend 40 CFR parts 52 and 70 as set forth below:

PART 52—APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

1. The authority citation for part 52 continues to read as follows:
Authority: 2 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.

Subpart Q—Iowa

2. In §52.820, the table in paragraph (c) is amended by revising the entry “567–22.1” to read as follows:

§52.820 Identification of plan.
* * * * * * *
(c) * * *

§52.820 Identification of plan.
* * * * * * *
(c) * * *

PART 70—STATE OPERATING PERMIT PROGRAMS

3. The authority citation for part 70 continues to read as follows:
Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401, et seq.

4. Appendix A to part 70 is amended by adding paragraph (s) under the heading “Iowa” to read as follows:

Appendix A to Part 70—Approval Status of State and Local Operating Permits Programs
* * * * * * *

Iowa
* * * * * * *

(s) The Iowa Department of Natural Resources submitted for program approval revisions to rule 567–22.105. Electronic submittal referred to in 22.105 is not approved in the operating permits program. The state effective date is December 13, 2017. This revision is effective (date 60 days after

Background. On April 19, 2018, the International, Public Safety and Homeland Security, and Wireless Telecommunications Bureaus issued Public Notice DA 18–398 announcing a temporary freeze effective April 19, 2018, on the filing of new or modification applications for FSS earth station licenses, FSS receive-only earth station registrations, and fixed microwave licenses in the 3.7–4.2 GHz frequency band. As a limited exception to the filing freeze, the International Bureau concurrently opened a 90-day window during which entities that operated existing FSS earth stations in the 3.7–4.2 GHz band could voluntarily file an application to register or license their earth stations if they were not currently registered or licensed in the IBFS, or could file an application to modify a current registration or license. The Bureau also waived the coordination report requirement for the duration of the freeze.

90-Day Extension of Application Filing Window. The International Bureau now extends the original 90-day filing window announced in the Freeze PN for an additional 90 days, until October 17, 2018, in order to provide operators with more time to file applications, should they choose to do so. This action does not impact the cut-off date for operations eligible for the exception, i.e., only earth stations constructed and operational as of April 19, 2018 are eligible for filing during this window.

Filing Option for Operators with Multiple Co-Located Earth Station Antennas. The Bureau clarifies that operators with multiple receive-only antennas at a single geographic location or address may apply to register these antennas under a single earth station application and pay a single application fee, which is currently $435 (fee code CMO).

Filing Option for Operators with Geographically Diverse Earth Stations. The Bureau announces that it is waiving certain sections of the Commission’s rules to permit operators of multiple geographically diverse receive-only earth stations to register those stations under § 25.115(c)(2) of the Commission’s rules, 47 CFR 25.115(c)(2), which permits applications for “Networks of earth station operating in the 3700–4200 MHz and 5925–6425 MHz bands.” Specifically, the Bureau waives the portions of § 25.115(c)(2) that are inapplicable to receive-only stations or are unnecessary as a result of the Freeze PN. The following procedures apply to applicants seeking to utilize the § 25.115(c)(2) process for registration of receive-only earth stations during the filing window: Applicants must complete a “Lead Application” on Form 312, Main Form and Schedule B; Schedule B should include a site ID for each geographic location where the applicant has receive-only earth stations and should provide the technical details required by the Form for each antenna at each site; the coordination report required by § 25.115(c)(2) is waived as described in DA 18–398; the requirements of paragraphs (i) and (v) of § 25.115(c)(2) are waived for networks of receive-only earth stations; pursuant to DA 18–398, only earth stations constructed and operational as of April 19, 2018 may file during the window, so the one-year construction period of § 25.115(c)(2)(vii) is inapplicable.

Fees. Applicants filing as a network of earth stations under § 25.115(c)(2) as described above must pay the fee for a “Fixed Satellite VSAT System,” which is currently $10,620 (fee code BGV). Networks of receive-only earth stations are not subject to regulatory fees.

This document does not contain proposed information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. In addition, therefore, it does not contain any proposed information collection burden for small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees, pursuant to the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2002, Public Law 107–198, see 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(4).