



**STATEMENT OF THE
MID-ATLANTIC / NORTHEAST VISIBILITY UNION (MANE-VU)
CONCERNING A REQUEST FOR A COURSE OF ACTION BY
THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)
TOWARD ASSURING REASONABLE PROGRESS**

The US Clean Air Act and the EPA Regional Haze rule require States that are reasonably anticipated to cause or contribute to impairment of visibility in mandatory Class I Federal areas to implement reasonable measures to reduce visibility impairment within the national parks and wilderness areas designated as mandatory Class I Federal areas.

Most pollutants that affect visibility also cause unhealthy concentrations of ozone and fine particles, and contribute to other adverse environmental impacts. In order to assure protection of public health and the environment, air pollutant emission reductions required to meet the 2018 reasonable progress goal for regional haze should be achieved as soon as practicable.

MANE-VU assessments indicate that sulfur dioxide emissions from power plants in a broad region of the Eastern US are the most important contributor to regional haze at mandatory Class I Federal areas within MANE-VU.

By 2018, emissions from these plants will be substantially reduced under requirements of EPA's Clean Air Interstate Rule. This will result in improved visibility at MANE-VU Class I areas.

However, even after implementation of the CAIR rule, emissions from power plants will remain a substantial source of pollutants contributing to visibility impairment in MANE-VU Class I areas.

Furthermore, under more stringent national ambient air quality standards, these same pollutants will continue to contribute to ozone pollution and fine particle pollution in nonattainment areas within the region.

Therefore, it is an important responsibility of both EPA and the MANE-VU states to determine whether additional emissions reductions at power

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Delaware
District of Columbia
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New Hampshire
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Pennsylvania
Penobscot Indian Nation
Rhode Island
St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
Vermont

Nonvoting Members

U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency
National Park Service
U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Service
U.S. Forest Service

MANE-VU Class I Areas

ACADIA NATIONAL PARK
ME

BRIGANTINE WILDERNESS
NJ

GREAT GULF WILDERNESS
NH

LYE BROOK WILDERNESS
VT

MOOSEHORN WILDERNESS
ME

PRESIDENTIAL RANGE
DRY RIVER WILDERNESS
NH

ROOSEVELT CAMPOBELLO
INTERNATIONAL PARK
ME/NB, CANADA

plants should be a part of a reasonably available strategy to improve visibility in the MANE-VU region.

MANE-VU sponsored additional modeling using the Integrated Planning Model (IPM[®]). Results of this modeling indicate that an additional 18% emissions reduction in SO₂ emissions beyond CAIR levels could be achieved by 2018 at a reasonable cost.

The MANE-VU states and tribes request that EPA work with the eastern Regional Planning Organizations to develop a proposal for tightening the CAIR program to achieve an additional 18% reduction in SO₂ by no later than 2018.

Adopted by the MANE-VU States and Tribes on June 20, 2007



David Littell, Commissioner – Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection
Chair

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