



# PUBLIC NOTICE

## **Request for Public Comments on Exceptional Events in the Greater Phoenix Area**

In 2005, Congress identified a need to account for events that result in exceedances of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) that are exceptional in nature (e.g., not expected to reoccur or caused by acts of nature beyond man-made controls.) In response, EPA promulgated the Exceptional Events Rule (EER) to address exceptional events in 40 CFR Parts 50 and 51 on March 22, 2007 (72 FR 13560). On May 2, 2011, EPA released draft guidance documents on the implementation of the EER to State, tribal and local air agencies for review. The EER allows for states and tribes to “flag” air quality monitoring data as an exceptional event. If flagged, these data can be excluded from consideration in air quality planning if EPA concurs with the demonstration submitted by the flagging agency documenting that all procedural and technical requirements have been met.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 50.14(c)(3)(i), the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is soliciting comments on its final demonstrations of events that have caused elevated concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub> in the Greater Phoenix area on September 11 & 12, 2011 and June 16; June 27; July 11; August 11; August 14; and September 6, 2012. ADEQ has decided to flag these episodes based on these analyses. Copies of the demonstrations are available for review beginning Monday, January 14, 2013, on the ADEQ website at [www.azdeq.gov/environ/air/plan/](http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/air/plan/). Interested parties can submit written comments throughout the comment period which will end at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2013. Any comments received will be responded to and forwarded to EPA with the final demonstrations.

Written comments should be addressed, faxed, or e-mailed to:

Andra Juniel, Air Assessment Section, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, 1110 W. Washington Street, 3415-A, Phoenix, AZ 85007, PHONE: (602) 771-4417; FAX: (602) 771-2366, E-mail: [juniel.andra@azdeq.gov](mailto:juniel.andra@azdeq.gov).

In addition to being available on-line, copies of the analyses are available for review, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the ADEQ Records Management Center, 1110 W. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ, 85007, Attn: Records Center, (602) 771-4380, email: [recordscenter@azdeq.gov](mailto:recordscenter@azdeq.gov).

Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodations by contacting Linda Morrison at (602) 771-4793 or 1-800-234-5677 ext. 771-4793. This document is available in alternative formats by contacting ADEQ TDD phone number at (602) 771-4829.