

NATIONAL TRIBAL AIR ASSOCIATION FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW OF THE CROSS-STATE AIR POLLUTION RULE (CSAPR)

WHAT IS THE CSAPR?

CSAPR stands for Cross-State Air Pollution Rule. The original rule was finalized in July of 2011 to [address air pollution originating in one state and traveling to another state](#), and applies exclusively to power plants in the eastern half of the country. Pollutants such as sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) react in the atmosphere to form fine particle pollution, and NO_x contributes to ground-level ozone (smog). Because the wind can carry these pollutants for hundreds of miles, the source that created them is not the only area that is impacted, and without the CSAPR, downwind Tribes and states can be in non-attainment for NAAQS due to sources beyond their control.



Figure 1 (above): Smoke stacks. air pollution.

<https://ehsdailyadvisor.blr.com/2020/10/will-revised-cross-state-air-pollution-rule-extend-beyond-power-plants/>

Cross-State Air Pollution Rule Regions

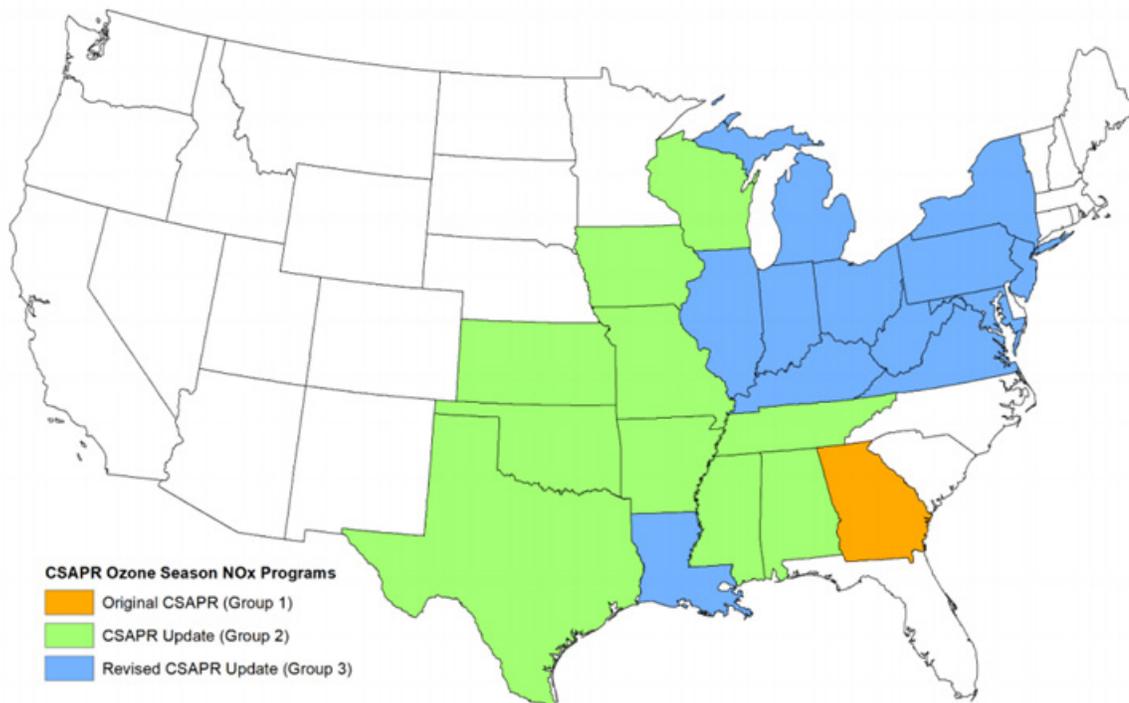


Figure 2 (left): Cross-State Air Pollution Rule Regions. <https://www.epa.gov/csapr/revised-cross-state-air-pollution-rule-update>

WHAT IS THE PROPOSED REVISED RULE FOR CSAPR?

This proposal addresses the emissions from power plants in 12 states (shown in blue on the map) that are projected to exceed the NAAQS threshold, impacting downwind Tribes and states. To address the emissions, power plants in the 12 states are required to participate in a new CSAPR NO_x Ozone Trading Program for Group 3. In CSAPR trading programs, power plants are given a pollution limit; the Group they are in is allotted allowances, which can be bought and sold depending on the amount of their emissions and their ability to reduce emissions.

HOW DOES THIS IMPACT TRIBES?

This revised rule will hopefully improve air quality for any Tribes that are downwind of the states affected by the rule. Three of the 12 states that are subject to the revised rules have Tribes within their borders, however none of those Tribes currently operate power plants; any new power plant built by a Tribe would be subject to the rules if they meet CSAPR trading program applicability criteria.

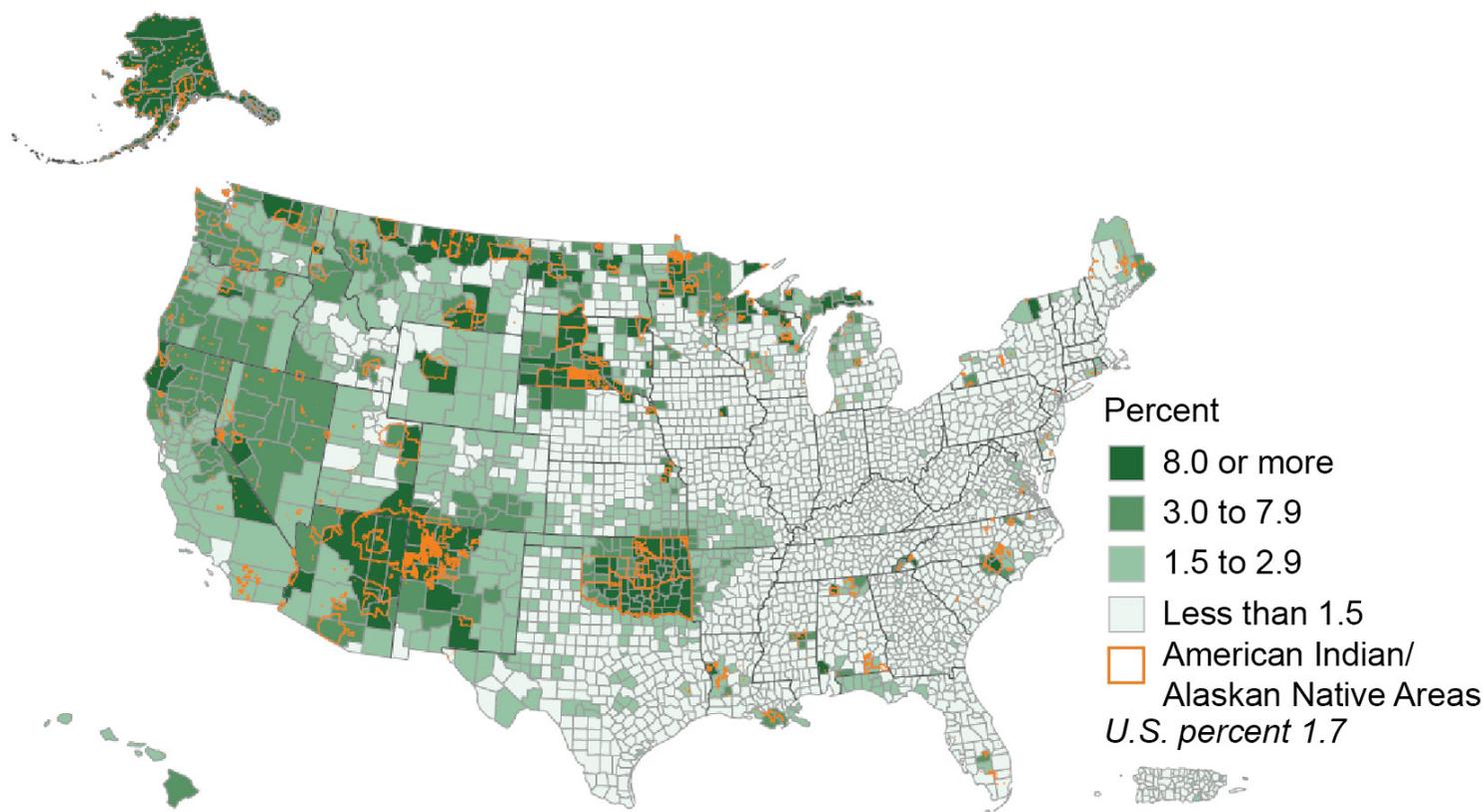


Figure 3: “Indigenous populations extend across Reservation lands.” Census data show that American Indian and Alaska Native populations are concentrated around, but are not limited to, reservation lands like the Hopi and Navajo in Arizona and New Mexico, the Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Cherokee in Oklahoma, and various Sioux tribes in the Dakotas and Montana. <https://toolkit.climate.gov/topics/tribal-nations> and [The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2010](#)

HOW TO COMMENT:

- The NTAA is developing a Tribal Template Letter that you can use to help develop comments to submit to the EPA, and will be hosting a webinar in November. You can also read the [fact sheet developed by the EPA](#) for more information.
- This proposal was published in the Federal Register on October 10, 2020; the comment period will be open for 45 days. Comments must be received on or before **December 14, 2020**.
- Comments should be identified by **Docket ID #EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-0272**, and [submitted online](#) or via email to A-and-R-Docket@epa.gov.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

- To download a copy of the proposed rule, [click here](#).
- The proposed decision and other background information are also available electronically and at EPA’s electronic public docket and comment system.
- To view information on affected units, emission reductions, pollution controls and monitoring, compliance, environmental, and air quality results under the CSAPR programs, see the [progress report](#).