### Alternative Fuels and Air Quality

"How these projects will impact air quality planning"

### Points to Cover

- The National Ambient Air Quality Standards
  - 2008 Ozone Standard
  - PM <sub>2.5</sub> Standard
- Why should Louisiana be concerned?
  - Impacts of nonattainment
- How these projects fit with our local planning efforts
  - Advance Program
  - Current activities to remain in attainment

#### The Clean Air Act

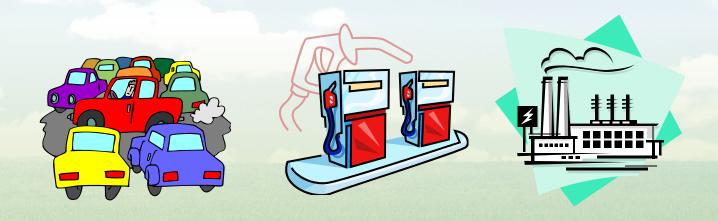
- Requires EPA to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (Standards) for 6 Criteria Pollutants;
- These standards are reviewed every 5 years and revised if necessary to protect health and welfare;
- Two types of standards
  - Primary protects public health
  - Secondary protects public welfare;
- The 6 pollutants are: Carbon Monoxide, Lead,
  Nitrogen Dioxide, Ozone, Particulate Matter and
  Sulfur Dioxide

#### What is Ozone?

- Ozone is commonly referred to as smog.
- It is not emitted, but forms in the atmosphere under certain conditions
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) + Nitrogen
  Oxides (NOx) + Sunlight = Ozone
- In other words, emissions from people+ industry + cars + sunshine = ozone
- Stratospheric ozone layer is good & protects us from UV rays, ground level ozone is a pollutant

### Sources of NOx and VOCs

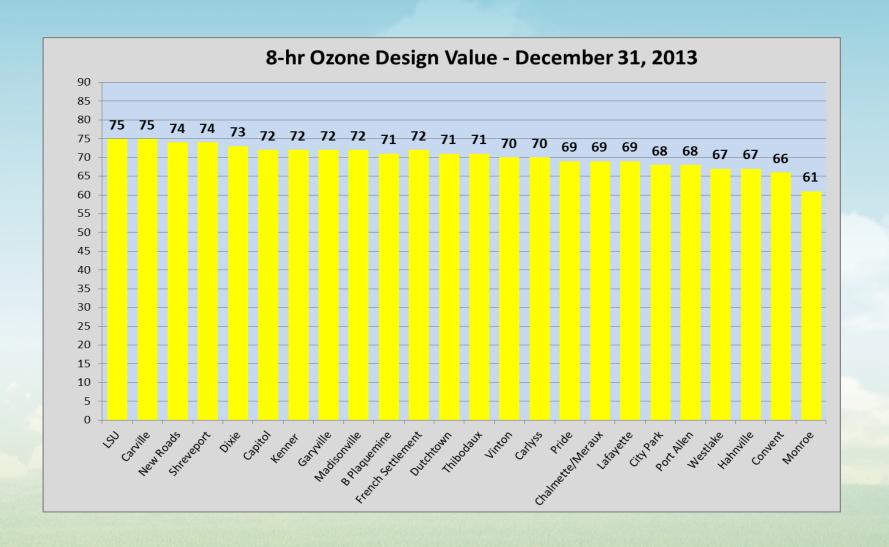
- NO<sub>x</sub> forms quickly from combustion sources such as automobiles, power plants and large construction equipment.
- VOCs come from paints, solvents and fuels and evaporate quickly into the atmosphere.

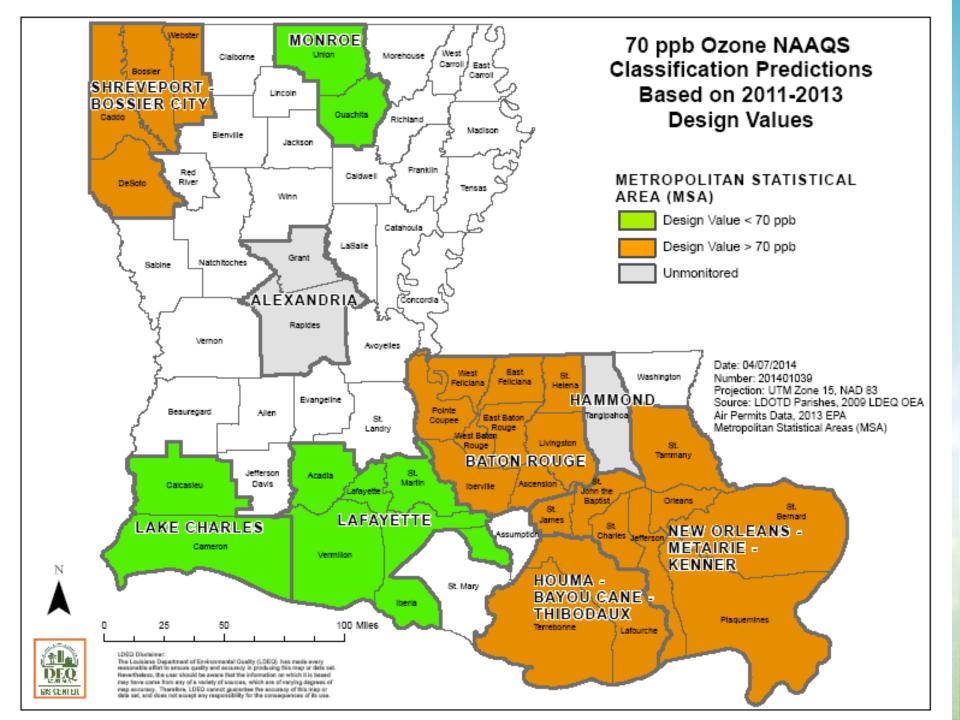


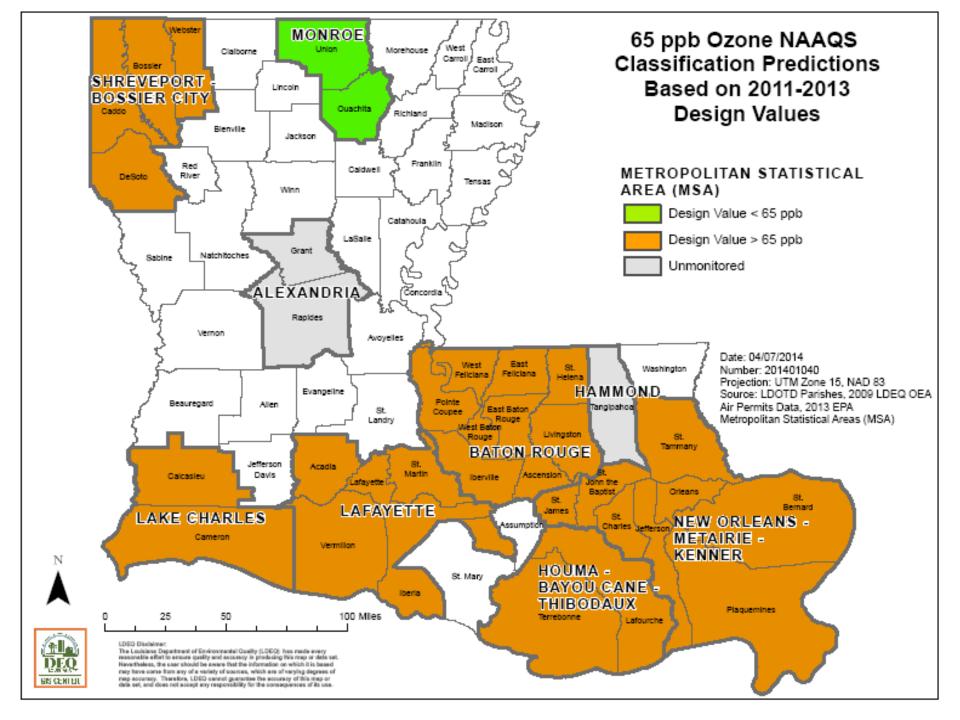
### Designation, Classification, and Design Value

- <u>Designation</u> refers to whether or not an area is above or below the standard
- <u>Classification</u> categories are determined based on an area's design value.
- Design Value the 3-year average of the fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration measured at each monitor within an area.

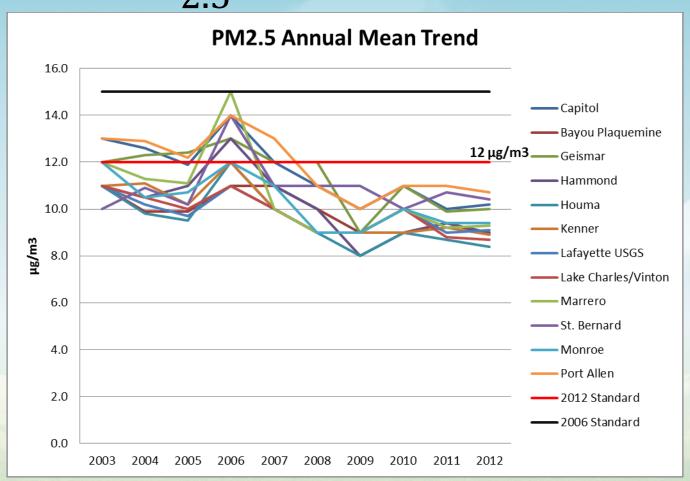
### 2011-2013 Was A Good Period!







## PM<sub>2.5</sub> Annual Mean Trend



## Example Timeline – Assume EPA Proposes Standard 12/1/2014

- EPA has 1 year to make the standard final 12/1/2015
- State has 1 year from final standard to recommend designations 12/1/2016
- Once Final, EPA has 2 years to complete designations 12/1/2017
  - EPA can request a 1 year extension –12/1/2018
  - Within the 2 years, EPA has to give State 120 days to rebut their proposed designations before they go final
- DEQ monitoring data to be used for recommendation 2013-2015 (data certified to EPA by May 1, 2016)
  - If EPA gets more time, DEQ could make an updated recommendation request to use 2014-2016 data if it were better than 2013-2015.
- Advance Program important because ongoing projects can be considered in making recommendations.

## Tying it all Together

- Being determined to be nonattainment has serious economic ramifications
- Continued voluntary emissions reductions are a necessity across the state
- Every little bit helps
- Increased local awareness is important
- Connect Projects with local Advance Partners

# Who is in Advance Program and What are They Doing Now?

- Regional Planning Commission (New Orleans)
  - Working to establish a coalition with business and industry to perform additional modeling projects designed to identify the reductions necessary to stay in attainment
- BR Clean Air Coalition (Baton Rouge)
  - Active coalition that is continuing efforts to identify additional reduction projects. One just completed is the Truck Stop Electrification project in Port Allen to reduce NOx
- South Central Planning & Development (Houma-Thibodaux)
  - Also working to establish a coalition. They have been undertaking outreach and education to get the public more aware. Their next step is to connect with business and industry.

# Who is in Advance Program and What are They Doing Now?

- Lafayette Consolidated Parish Government
  - In the best shape Design Value wise, they are doing a lot of transportation related projects like CNG fueling stations, CNG city bus fleet. They also need to bring business to the table to work on area sources.
- Cities of Shreveport &Bossier City
  - Actively contracting for additional modeling to give them specific emission reduction goals. This area does a lot with energy efficiency projects and has a good education and awareness program.
- Imperial Calcasieu Regional Planning District (Lake Charles)
  - This group is working to educate and should be pursuing additional modeling projects later this year. The IMCAL office is leading the efforts and they have a good website presence

## **DEQ Planning Contacts**

Michael Vince: michael.vince@la.gov 225-219-3482

Vivian Aucoin: vivian.aucoin@la.gov 225-219-3389

Gilberto Cuadra: gilberto.cuadra@la.gov 225-219-3419

#### Mailing Address:

**DEQ Air Permits Division** 

P. O. Box 4313

Baton Rouge, LA 70821

www.deq.louisiana.gov

### Thank You!