

Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition

February 8, 2024

Standard Order of Business

Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Approval of Minutes

- Distributed Prior to Meeting

- Need Motion to Approve & 2nd
  - January 2024 Minutes

Financial Report Approval

- See insert at right

- Need Motion to Approve & Second

Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition

Financial Report
As of January 31, 2024

Beginning Balance -December 31, 2023			$ 207,924.76
Revenues			
Bank Interest	$ 7.96		
Member Contributions	433.00		
Total Revenues			$ 440.96
Subtotal			208,365.72
Expenditures			
20 year celebration expenses	2,470.29		
Ray Clark	5,716.00		
Total Expenditures			8,186.29
Ending Balance -January 31, 2024			$ 200,179.43



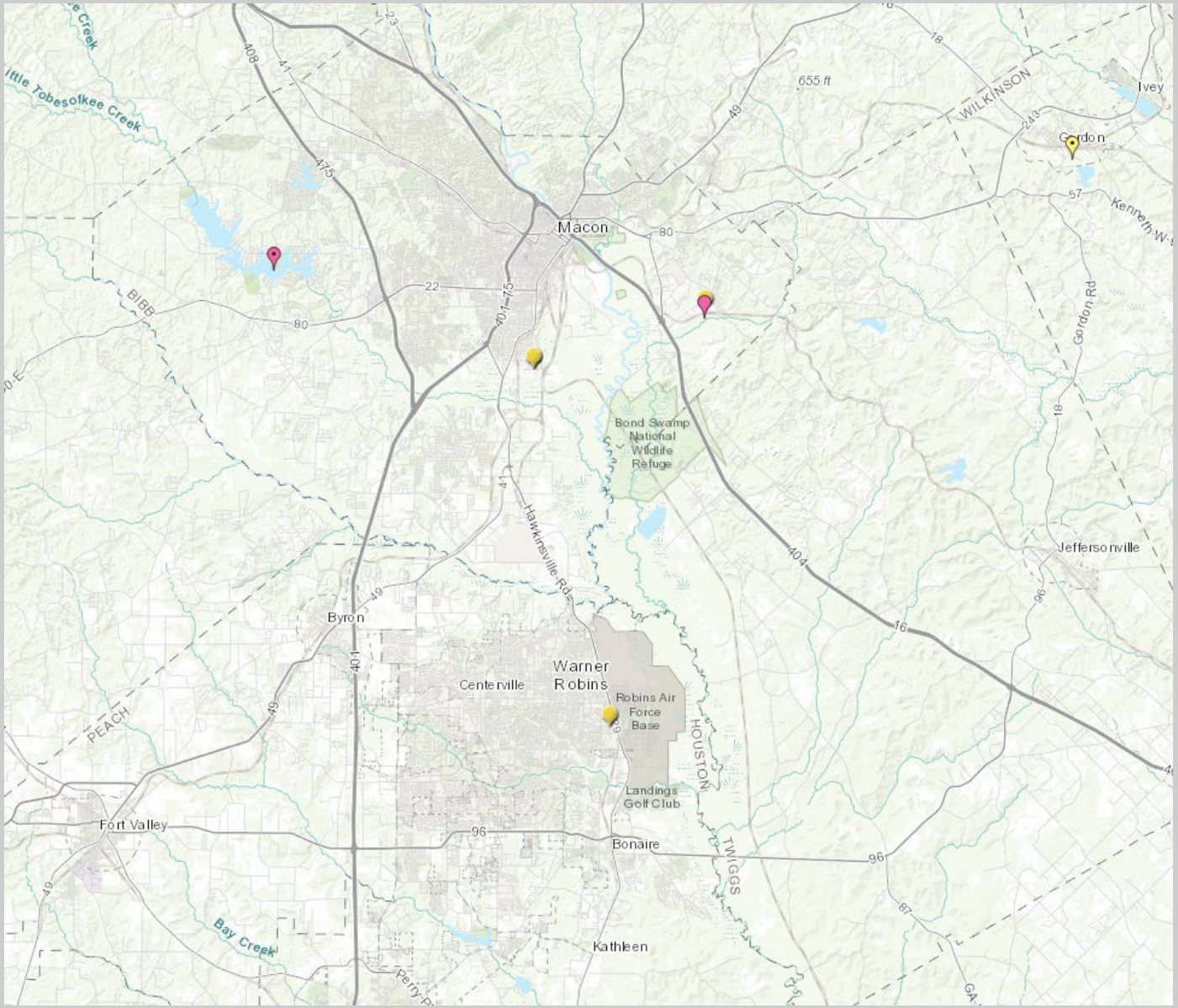
Update on PM 2.5 Standards

Greg Boike

Final Rule Issued – February 7, 2024

- Changing the Fine Particulate Matter ($PM_{2.5}$) from 12 micrograms per cubic meter (2012 NAAQS Standard) to 9 micrograms per cubic meter
- Particle pollution is linked to a range of serious and sometimes deadly illnesses. Long- and short-term exposure can lead to asthma attacks, missed days of school or work, heart attacks, and premature death.
- Some PM is emitted directly from combustion sources, construction sites, industrial processes, and older diesel engines
- Other particles are formed in the atmosphere in complex chemical reactions with other pollutants such as sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides that are emitted from power plants, gasoline and diesel engines, and certain industrial processes.

Monitoring Locations

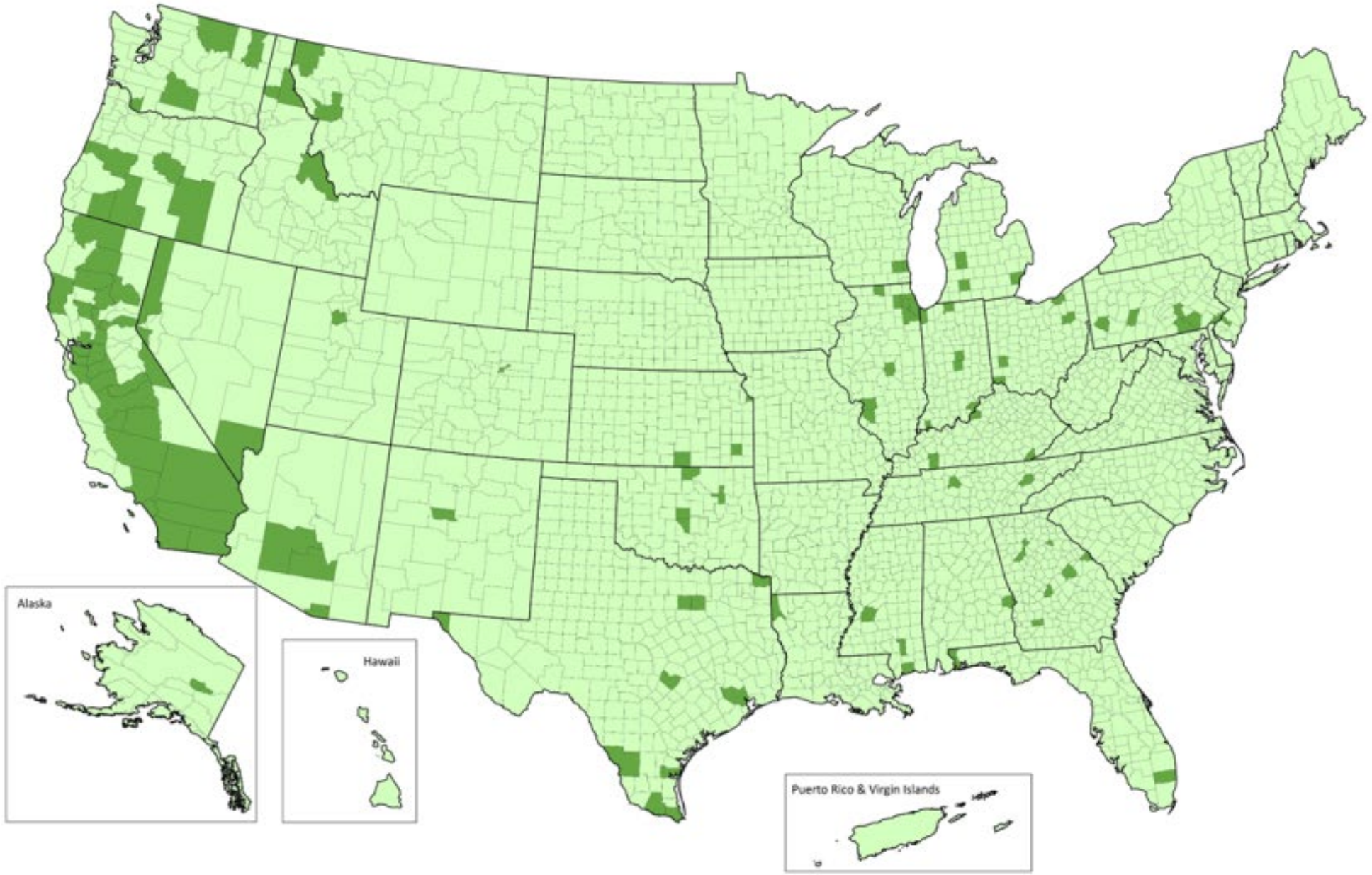


- Ozone - Active
- Ozone - Inactive
- PM10 - Active
- PM10 - Inactive
- PM2.5 - Active
- PM2.5 - Inactive

PM 2.5 Point Source Emitters

FACILITY	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP CODE	EMISSIONS	UNIT OF MEASURE
Graphic Packaging Macon Mill	100 Graphic Packaging International Way	Macon	31206	272.7778	TON
CEMEX Southeast, LLC	2720 US Highway 341	Clinchfield	31013	181.4294	TON
Anchor Glass Container Corporation	1044 Booth Road	Warner Robins	31088	157.1082	TON
Ga Power Company - Plant Scherer	10986 Highway 87	Juliette	31046	93.6229	TON
Cherokee Brick & Tile Company	3250 Waterville Rd	Macon	31206	89.8736	TON
KaMin - Macon Facility	822 Huber Rd	Macon	31217	47.2600	TON
Armstrong World Industries Inc.	4520 Broadway	Macon	31206	40.4167	TON
Smarr EMC	1077 Rumble Road	Smarr	31086	34.1146	TON
Interfor Perry Division	903 Jernigan Street	Perry	31069	23.6738	TON
Robins AFB Airport	Unknown	Warner Robins	00000	16.0961	TON

2022 Data



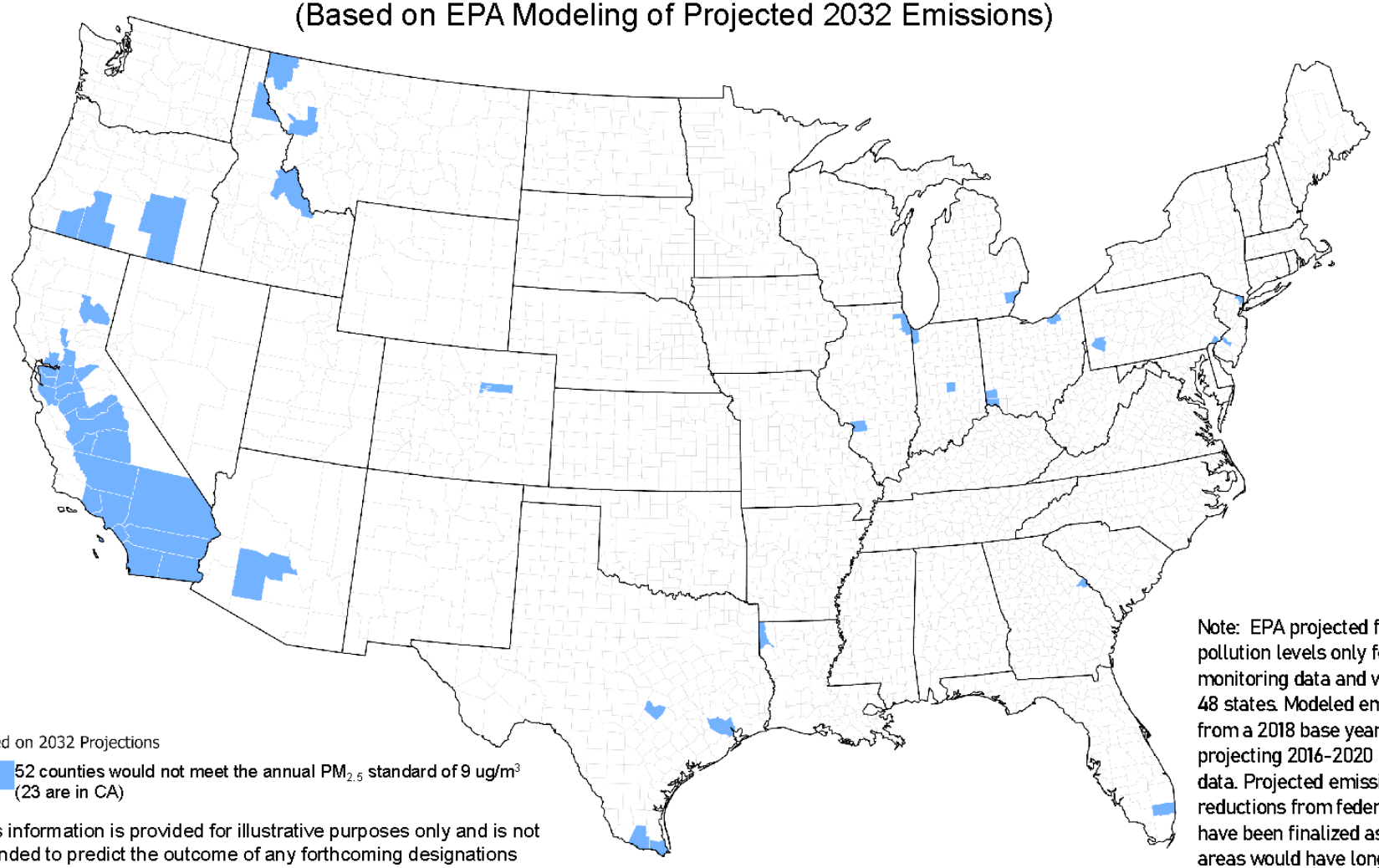
2032 Projections

United States Environmental Agency

EPA Projects More than 99% of Counties would Meet the Revised Fine Particle Pollution Standard

Projection of Counties with Monitors that would not Meet in 2032

(Based on EPA Modeling of Projected 2032 Emissions)



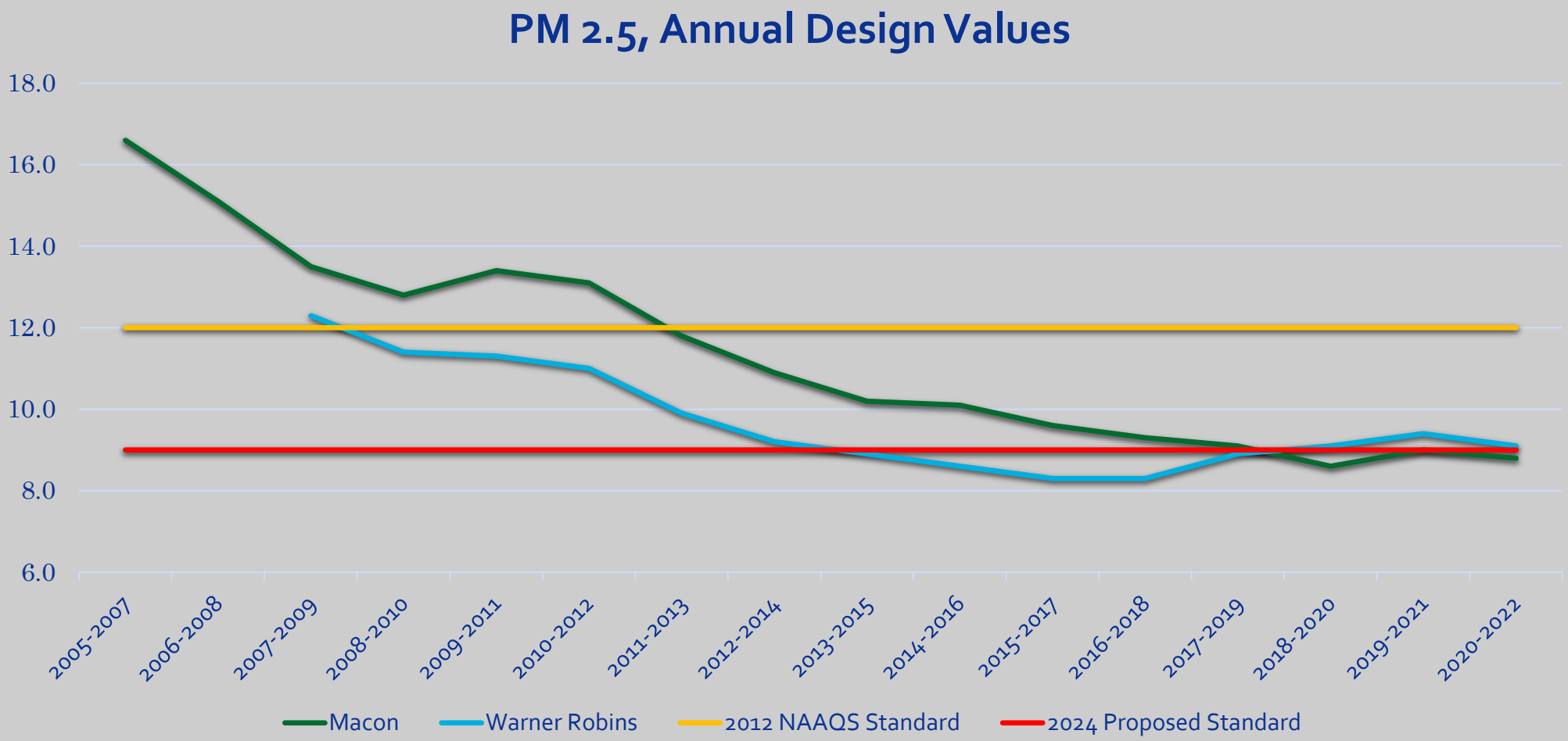
Based on 2032 Projections

52 counties would not meet the annual $PM_{2.5}$ standard of 9 ug/m^3 (23 are in CA)

This information is provided for illustrative purposes only and is not intended to predict the outcome of any forthcoming designations process.

Note: EPA projected future fine particle pollution levels only for counties with monitoring data and within the contiguous 48 states. Modeled emissions are developed from a 2018 base year and used in projecting 2016-2020 monitoring data. Projected emissions reflect expected reductions from federal regulations that have been finalized as of March 2023. Some areas would have longer than 2032 to attain the revised $PM_{2.5}$ standard.

Historical Data



Additional Thoughts

- Final Rules often may not be "Final" for a while, and can still undergo legal challenges, departmental reviews, etc.
- A new monitor was put into service in Macon-Bibb County in 2023. It's currently reading higher than either of the other two monitors. This data is not incorporated in the current projections of attaining the NAAQS by 2032.
- Trends have generally been going in a positive direction for cleaner air.
- Funding is at unprecedented levels to accelerate positive trends in air quality.
- The MGCAC Strategy for O_3 can work for PM2.5.
  - Green Team can meet to develop additional ideas.

Recap of 2024 Goals

Greg Boike

2024 Goals

Goal #1: Prepare for Electric Vehicle & Alternative Fuel Transitions

- Create a brand for this initiative (Example: "Charge Forward Middle Georgia")
- Partner with Georgia Power & EMCs to cross-promote incentives for installation of chargers
- Seek grant funding to implement the EV deployment strategy for Middle Georgia
- Provide technical resources and identify financial resources for local governments and school systems interested in converting fleets and machinery to EVs and other clean alternative fuels
- Highlight successful conversion of diesel buses and assist schools with grant funding to retire old vehicles and replace with alternative fuels
- Explore opportunities for hydrogen fuel

2024 Goals

Goal #2: Expand Middle Georgia Solar Programs

- Pursue SolSmart recognition for Middle Georgia region
- Assist cities and counties with enactment of Model Solar Ordinance, and partner to provide training opportunities on best practices for solar permitting and inspections
- Ensure that adequate bond protections exist for local governments permitting solar installations
- Support education and workforce development related to the solar industry, particularly CTAE pathways for renewable energy
- Implement new Solar Energy Procurement Agreements (SEPAs) to install solar panels on rooftops and canopies for schools and local government facilities
- Focus on industry partnerships as potential new solar customers
- Ensure education is available for potential solar buyers to protect from predatory sales
- Develop annual targets for new solar installed capacity within the region
- Explore research partnerships to deploy additional energy storage technologies

2024 Goals

Goal #3: Undertake Projects for Green, Efficient, and Healthy Buildings

- Continue technical assistance for energy savings audits and HVAC system improvements on public buildings and encourage retrofits of outdated lighting and building mechanical systems

Goal #4: Support Transit and Smart Growth Planning to Improve Air Quality

- Continue financial partnership with the I-75 Central Corridor Coalition (I-75 CCC) as a model for Smart Growth potential in Georgia
- Support efforts of the I-75 CCC to develop passenger rail from Hartsfield to Robins AFB



Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG)

Greg Boike

CPRG – 16 Priority Reduction Measures

- **Electrify Transportation Sector & Adapt to Mode Shift**
  - 1) Zero-Emission Buses
  - 2) Expansion of EV Charging Infrastructure
  - 3) Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled by Shifting Out of Cars and Onto Bikes
  - 4) Zero Emission Vehicle Fleet Deployment
- **Improve Energy Efficiency and Advance Electrification**
  - 5) Weatherization for Residential Buildings
  - 6) Home Energy Rebates for Purchase of Electric and Energy Efficient Products
- **Increase Availability and Use of Renewable Energy**
  - 7) Community Solar
  - 8) Distributed Renewable Energy for Electric Co-Ops and Municipal Utilities

CPRG – 16 Priority Reduction Measures

- **Improve Waste Diversion and Landfill Management**
  - 9) Landfill Gas Management and Utilization
  - 10) Organic Waste Diversion from Landfills
  - 11) Expand Recycling
- **Refrigerant Management**
  - 15) Management of F-Gas Leakage and Replacement of Equipment
- **Promote Use of Alternative Fuels**
  - 12) Expand Hydrogen Refueling Stations
  - 13) Sustainable Aviation Fuel Production
  - 14) Renewable Natural Gas Production from Biodigesters
- **Advance Conservation and Sustainable Land Use**
  - 16) Afforestation of Temperate Forests

Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

If we want to support grant applications from Middle Georgia, we need to know ASAP!

Contact Greg or Alex by Friday, 2/23



General Discussion

MGCAC Members

Adjournment

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 4:00 PM

Middle Georgia Regional Commission