

# Ground Level Ozone Pollution in Doña Ana County and Federal Ozone Requirements

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# Revisions to Ozone Standard

- The Sunland Park area violated the federal ground-level ozone standard when the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lowered the ozone air quality standard from 0.08 parts per million (ppm) to 0.075 ppm in March of 2008.
- The Sunland Park area was in compliance with the previous federal standard of 0.08 ppm.



# Revisions to Federal Air Standards

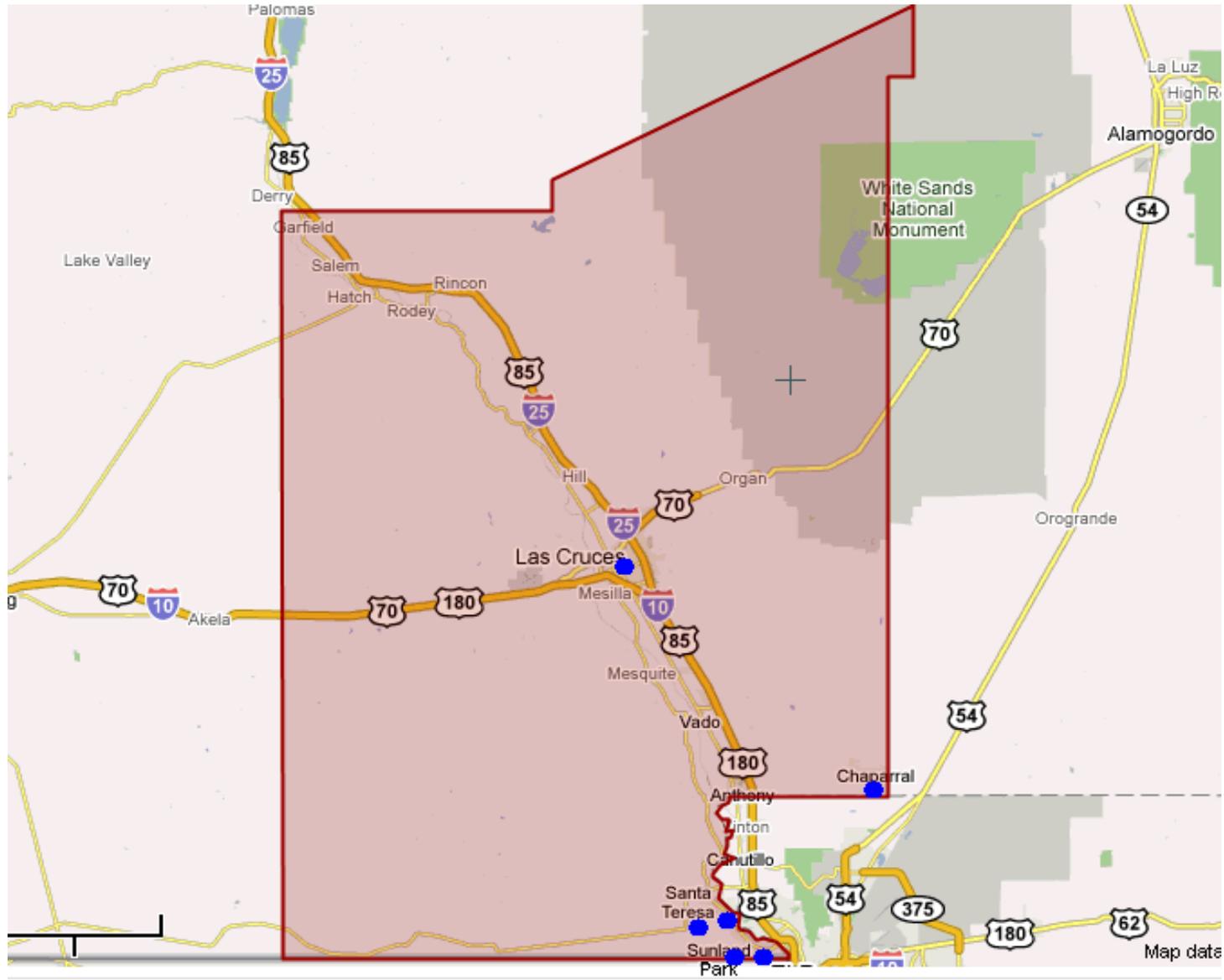
- The Clean Air Act requires states and tribes to determine areas of compliance and noncompliance whenever the federal air standards are revised.



# Current Monitoring Levels In Doña Ana County

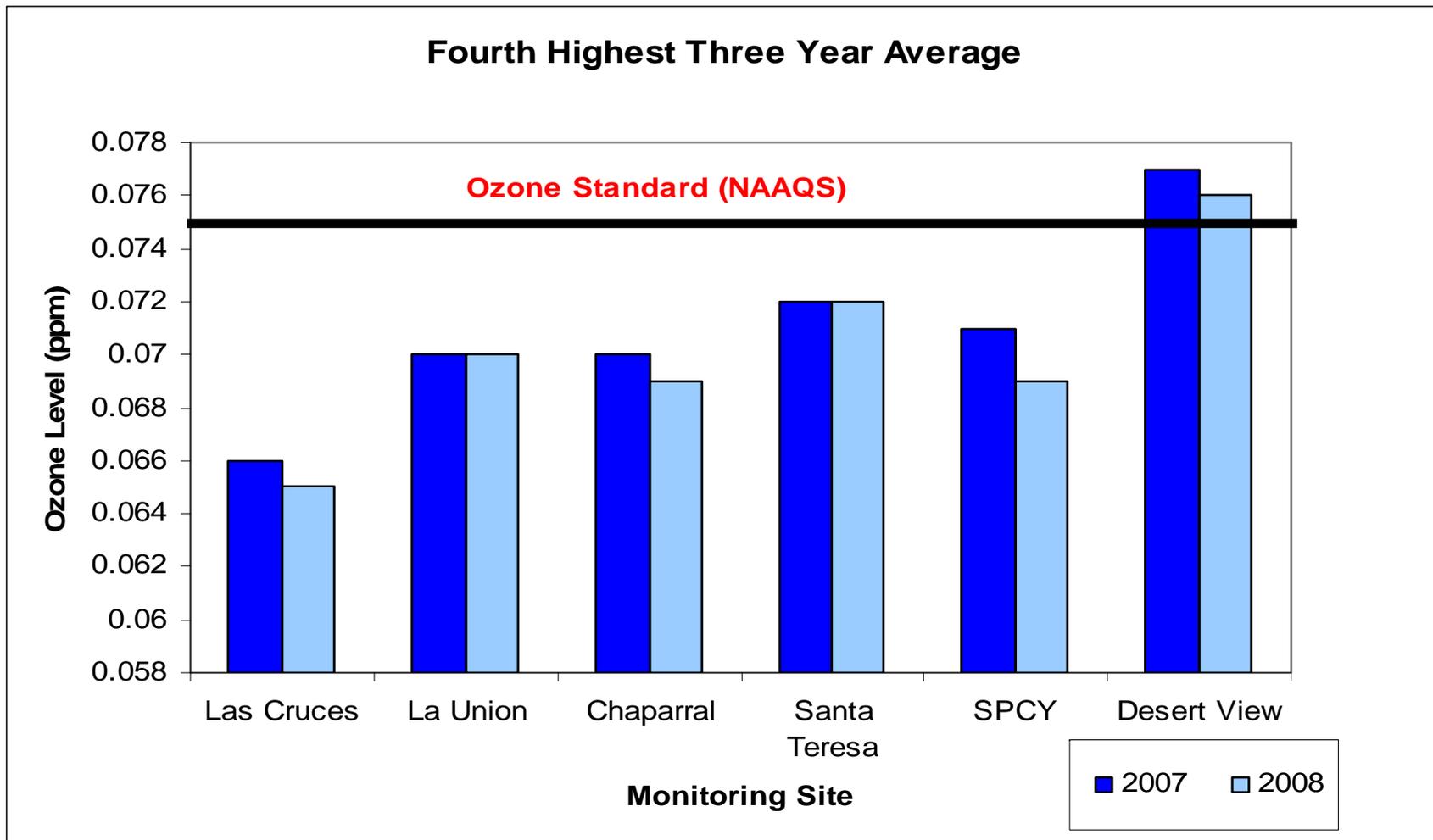
- 3 Year Averages for Monitoring Sites
  - Las Cruces: 0.065 ppm
  - La Union: 0.070 ppm
  - Chaparral: 0.069 ppm
  - Santa Teresa: 0.072 ppm
  - Sunland Park City Yard: 0.069 ppm
  - Desert View Elementary: 0.076 ppm
- Our monitoring data from Desert View Elementary indicates that the area is not attaining the new ground-level ozone standard of 0.075 ppm.





# Doña Ana County Ozone Monitoring Sites

# How 6 Monitors in Doña Ana County Compare to the EPA 8-hour Ozone Standard





NOx

Ozone

PM 2.5

PM 10

Met

# DESERT VIEW MONITORING SITE



So, How Do These High  
Ozone Levels Affect  
Sunland Park?



# Nonattainment in Sunland Park

- The Sunland Park area was designated as a nonattainment area for the 1-hour federal ozone standard in 1995.
- EPA replaced the 1-hour standard with the 8-hour standard of 0.08 ppm in 2004.
- Sunland Park area was in attainment for the new 8-hour standard so its status was changed from nonattainment to attainment in 2004.



# Nonattainment Designations

- Since the Sunland Park area is not in compliance with the new federal air quality standard for ozone, the state intends to recommend to EPA that the area be designated “nonattainment” for the new federal ozone standard of 0.075 ppm.
- The State will work with EPA on this designation.

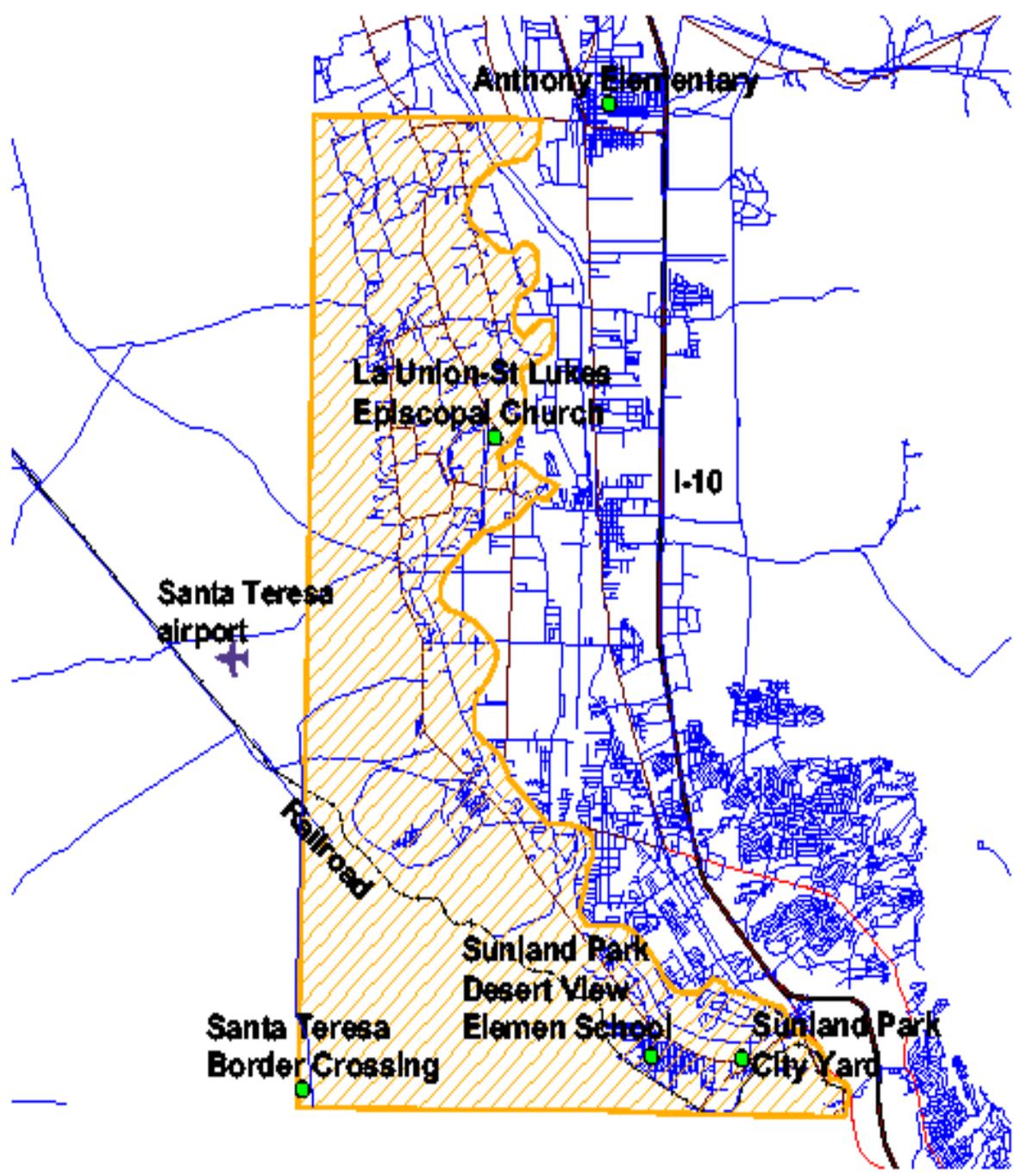


# The Nonattainment Area

- The old Sunland Park nonattainment area included:
  - Sunland Park;
  - Santa Teresa; and
  - La Union
- The state is considering some revisions for the new nonattainment area.
- The state is not recommending that EPA include all of Doña Ana County in the nonattainment area.



## Old Sunland Park Ozone Nonattainment Area



- AQB monitoring sites
- ▨ Sunland Park O3 Nonattainment Area
- ✈ Airports
- Streets
  - ▬ Primary road with limited access
  - ▬ Primary road
  - ▬ Secondary and connecting road
  - ▬ Local road
  - ▬ Road, major and minor categories unknown
  - ▬ Railroads



# The Nonattainment Area

- Although New Mexico is recommending that only a portion of Doña Ana County be included in the nonattainment area, EPA generally sets nonattainment boundaries based on metropolitan statistical areas, which would include all of Doña Ana County.



# Nonattainment Designation

- A nonattainment designation by EPA may result in the implementation of the following measures in the Sunland Park area:
  - Stricter air quality permitting requirements
  - Offsets for new sources
  - Requirements for transportation analysis
  - A formal program and air quality control plan for re-establishing attainment called a nonattainment plan.



# What if New Mexico does nothing?

- If New Mexico chooses not to make recommendations for the new ozone standard and/or develop a planning strategy for the area, the federal government will do it for us.
- This is called a Federal Implementation Plan or FIP.
- Neither the state nor the local communities will have a say in the development of a FIP.
- The federal government can also withhold state and local funding, including highway funds.



# Joint Advisory Committee (JAC)

- The State of New Mexico is responsible for the analysis and development of the nonattainment plan for the Sunland Park nonattainment area.
- The recommendations developed by the JAC will be an important resource in this process.
- New Mexico will work with stakeholders on developing the nonattainment plan.



What is the Next Step?



# Federal Timeline

- State Designation Recommendations to EPA
  - March 12, 2009
- Final Designations by EPA
  - March 12, 2010
- Nonattainment Plans Due to EPA
  - March 12, 2013
- Attainment Dates
  - 2013-2030 Depending on Severity of the Problem



# For More Information

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Questions?

