

Public Notice on Exceptional Events within the Gila River Indian Community boundary

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 but 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. 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 GRIC Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is soliciting comments on these recorded events that have caused elevated concentrations of PM₁₀ within the Gila River Indian Community boundary on March 30; April 28; July 15; July 16; July 29; August 3; September 7; and December 10, 2017. GRIC DEQ has decided to flag these episodes based on EER criteria. Interested parties can submit written comments to GRIC DEQ no later than June 22, 2018. Responses to any comments received will be forwarded to EPA.

Written comments should be addressed or e-mailed to:

Gila River Indian Community
Department of Environmental Quality
ATTN: Ryan Eberle
PO Box 97
Sacaton, AZ 85147

PHONE: (520) 562-2234

E-mail: air@gric.nsn.us.