# An Overview of Air Quality Issues

Mike Rogers Illinois EPA – Bureau of Air September 5, 2007 Clean Air Act History
National Ambient Air Quality Standards
Ozone and PM Control Efforts
Transportation Planning Impacts
Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets
Other Programs

# **Clean Air Act History**

### 1948 - Donora PA

- 20 people killed, 6,000 sickened during 5 day inversion
- Emissions from coal burning, coke ovens, zinc plant, and iron and steel industries trapped in river valley

### London Fog 1952-53

- Dense fog containing coal burning emissions enveloped area for a week in December
- Estimated 12,000 excess deaths from Dec '52 through Feb '53

# 1950's Los Angeles



# **1955 Air Pollution Control Act**

An Act to provide research and technical assistance relating to air pollution control

- Did little to prevent air pollution
- Granted \$5 Million/year for research by the Public Health Service
- Acknowledgement that the problem existed on a national level
- Reserved for Congress the right to control the problem

An Act to improve, strengthen, and accelerate programs for the prevention and abatement of air pollution

- Granted funding to state/local air pollution agencies to conduct research and create control programs
- Recognized dangers of motor vehicle exhaust and from emissions from use of high sulfur coal and oil
- Encouraged development of controls for motor vehicle and stationary source controls

## 1963 Clean Air Act, Amendments

- 1965, established standards for automobile emissions
- 1966, expanded local air pollution control programs

#### 1967, Air Quality Act

- Established national standards for stationary sources
- Established fixed timetable for State Implementation Plans
- Recommended control technologies

1969, extended research on low emissions fuels and automobiles

An Act to provide for a more effective program to improve the quality of the nation's air

#### Entirely rewrote the CAA of 1963

- Set National Ambient Air Quality Standards
- Set New Source Performance Standards
- Set standards for hazardous air emissions and motor vehicle emissions
- Granted citizens the right to take legal action against anyone in violation of emission standards

Established National Air Quality Standards for six criteria pollutants:

- Carbon Monoxide
- Ozone
- Lead
- Nitrogen Dioxide
- Particulate Matter
- Sulfur Dioxide

Primary standards to protect public health

Secondary standard to protect public welfare (e.g., damage to farm crops and vegetation)

### Leaded gasoline phase-down

- Tetraethyl Lead had been used as a gasoline additive since the 1920s
- Required the use of lead in gasoline to be phased out by the mid 1980s
- Considered one of the single most important and successful environmental health initiatives of the 20<sup>th</sup> century
- By 1995, the percentage of U.S. children with elevated blood-lead levels dropped from 88.2% in the 1970s to 4.4%

## 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments

- An Act to provide for attainment and maintenance of health protective national ambient air quality standards, and other purposes
  - Establishes NAA classification scheme and timeframes
  - Requires constant emissions reductions (RFP)
  - Requires USEPA to adopt more stringent motor vehicle and fuels standards as well as reduce emissions from consumer products and off-road equipment
- Targets Acid Rain
  - Required two phases of control on largest sources of  $\mathrm{SO}_2$  and  $\mathrm{NO}_x$

## **1990 Clean Air Act Amendments**

Required phase out of ozone depleting chemicals (e.g., freon, CFCs, ...)

Establishes Title V permit program

Begins to Address Air Toxics

- Identifies 189 toxic air pollutants
- EPA required to issue Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standards for air toxic sources

# NAAQS Process

- CAA requires EPA to review standards every 5 years
- Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) reviews pertinent health studies, recommends range for NAAQS standard
- EPA reviews CASAC recommendations and proposes level of standard
- EPA adopts level of standard after public comment period
- EPA gets sued

# **NAAQS** Standards

Pollutant	Primary Standard	Averaging Times	
	9 ppm	8-hour	
Carbon Monoxide	35 ppm	1-hour	
Ozone	0.08 ppm	8-hour	
Lead	1.5 ug/m³	Quarterly Ave	
Nitrogen Dioxide	100 ug/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual Mean	
Particulate Matter (PM10)	150 ug/m³	24-hour	
	15.0 ug/m³	Annual	
Particulate Matter (PM2.5)	35 ug/m <sup>3</sup>	24-hour	
	0.03 ppm	Annual Mean	
Sulfur Dioxide	0.14 ppm	24-hour	

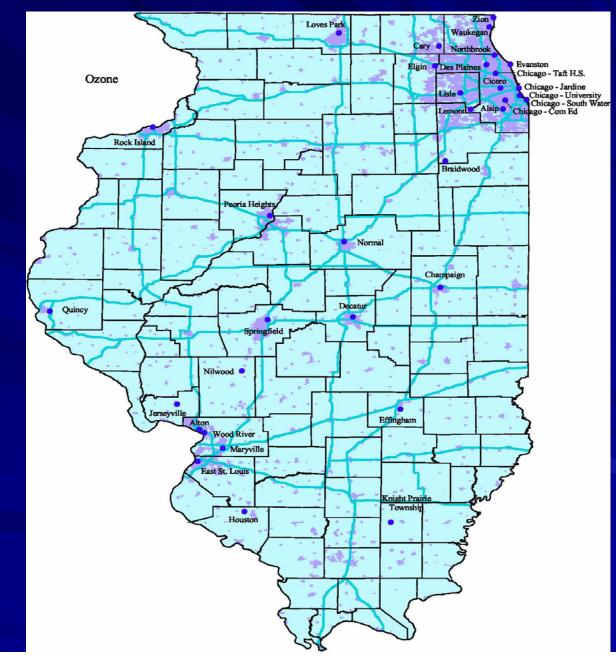
## **Attainment Status**

Illinois is in attainment of the NAAQS for

Carbon Monoxide Lead Nitrogen Dioxide Sulfur Dioxide Particulate Matter (PM10)

The Chicago and Metro-East St. Louis areas do not meet the 8-hour ozone and PM2.5 NAAQS

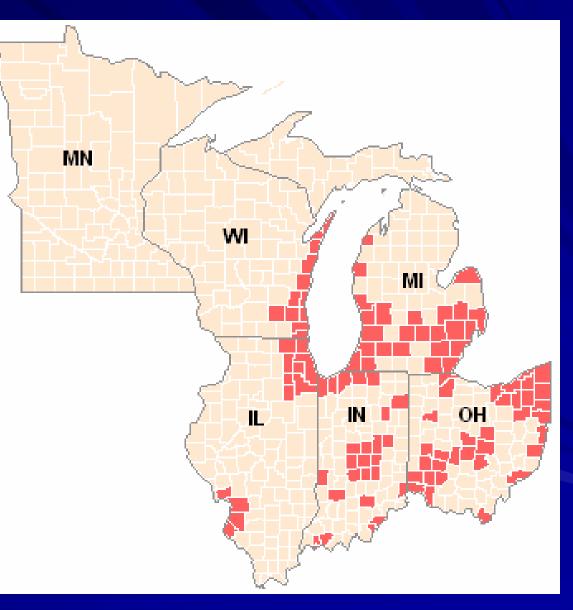
# **Ozone Monitor Locations**

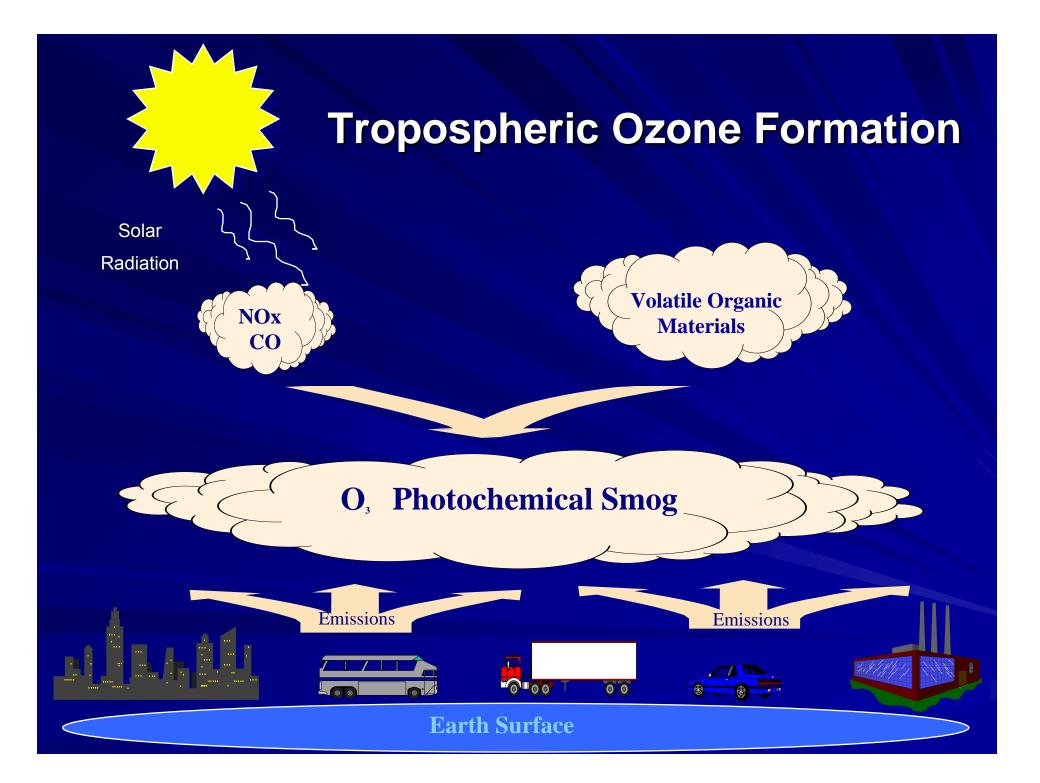


#### 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Areas (Region V)

Illinois NAA Counties: Chicago: Cook, DuPage, Kane Lake, McHenry, Will, Grundy (partial), Kendall (partial)

Metro-East St. Louis: Jersey, Madison, Monroe, St. Clair





## **Ozone Control Measures**

Reduce local VOM emissions and regional NOx

Recent VOM local controls (1990+)

- Implementation of tighter vehicle emission standards (tier 1 in 1994, tier 2 in 2004)
- Use of reformulated gasoline (1995, 2000)
- Vehicle refueling controls (Stage II & ORVR)
- Controls on surface coatings, printing
- MACT controls on toxic emissions sources (e.g., coke ovens)
- Illinois Emission Reduction Market System (ERMS)
- Federal off-road engine controls

   (lawn & garden, pleasure craft, recreational equipment)

## **Ozone Control Measures**

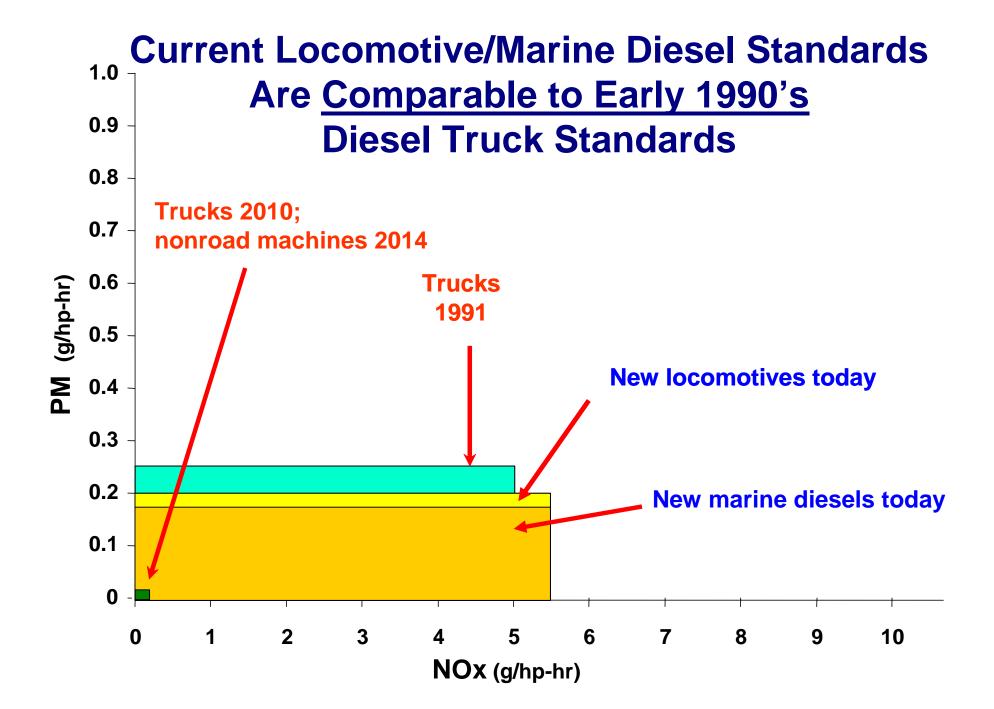
### NOx Reduction Measures

 NOx SIP Call (2004) and CAIR (2006) (affected electric generating utilities)

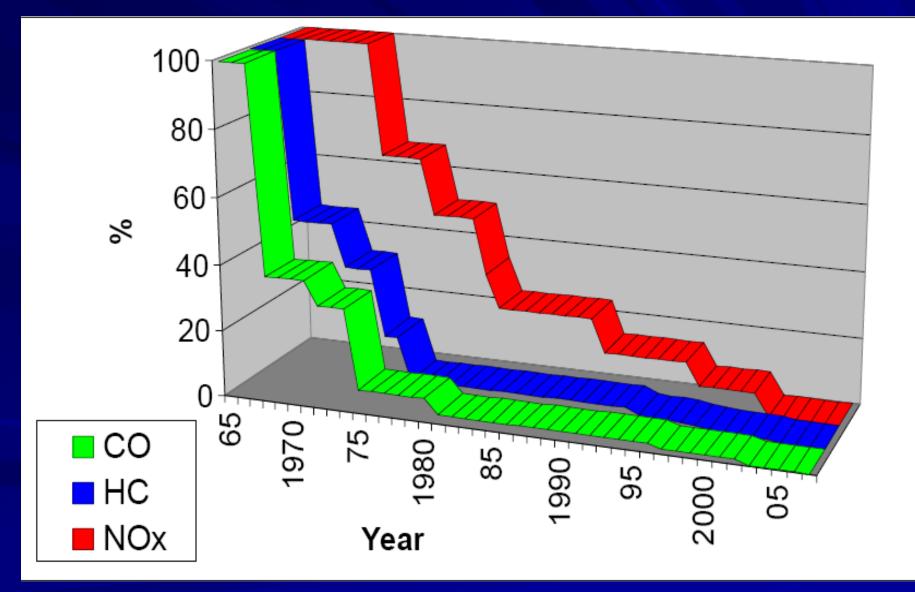
Tier 2 Motor Vehicle and fuel standards

- Restricts sulfur levels in gasoline to 30 ppm
- Enables the use of advanced NOx control catalysts
- Achieves a 77% reduction in NOx from cars, 95% reduction from trucks, vans, SUVs

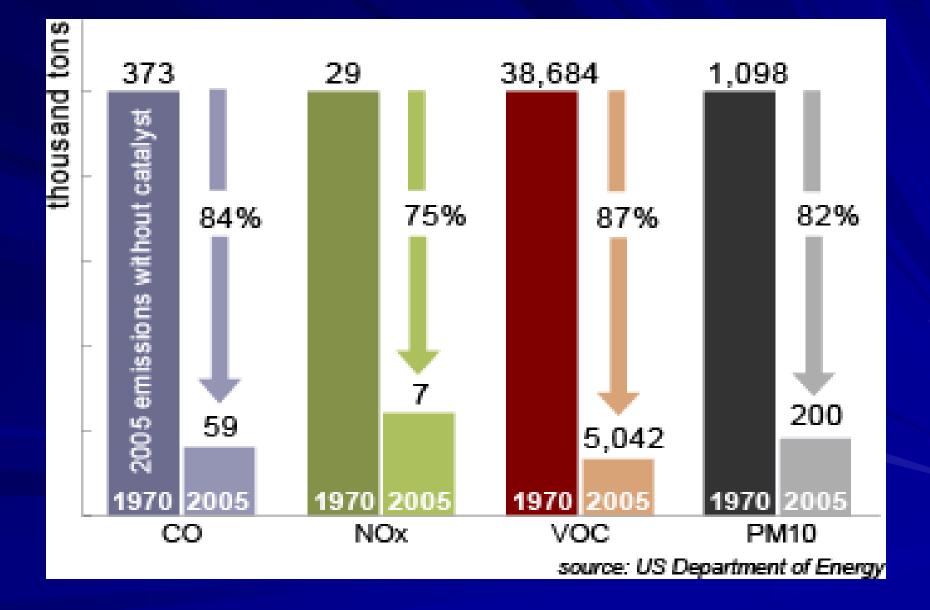
USEPA Non-Road Engine Regulations



# **New Car Emission Standards**

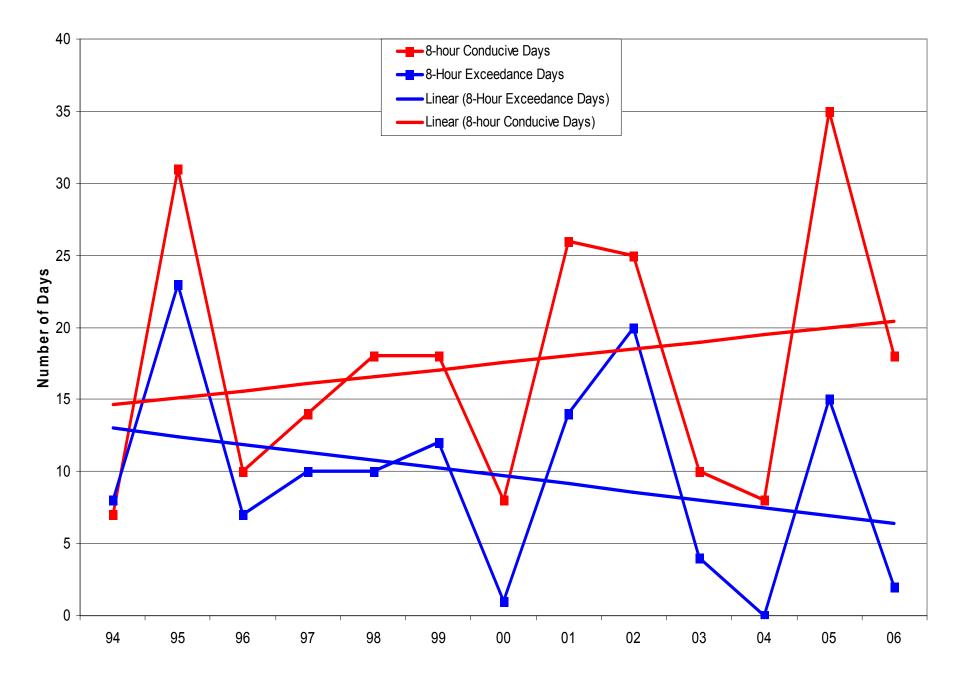


# **Motor Vehicle Emissions**



CHICAGO NAA EMISSIONS OF VOM (TONS/DAY)								
EMISSION CATEGORY	1970	1990	1996	2007	% Reduction from 1970	% Reduction from 1990		
POINT	340	313	206	227	33.3	27.5		
AREA	549	268	216	175	68.2	34.7		
on- Highway	992	491	257	127	87.2	74.2		
OFF- HIGHWAY	109	144	145	106	2.8	26.4		
TOTALS	1,990	1,216	824	663	66.7	45.5		

#### Chicago Area 8-hour Ozone Trend



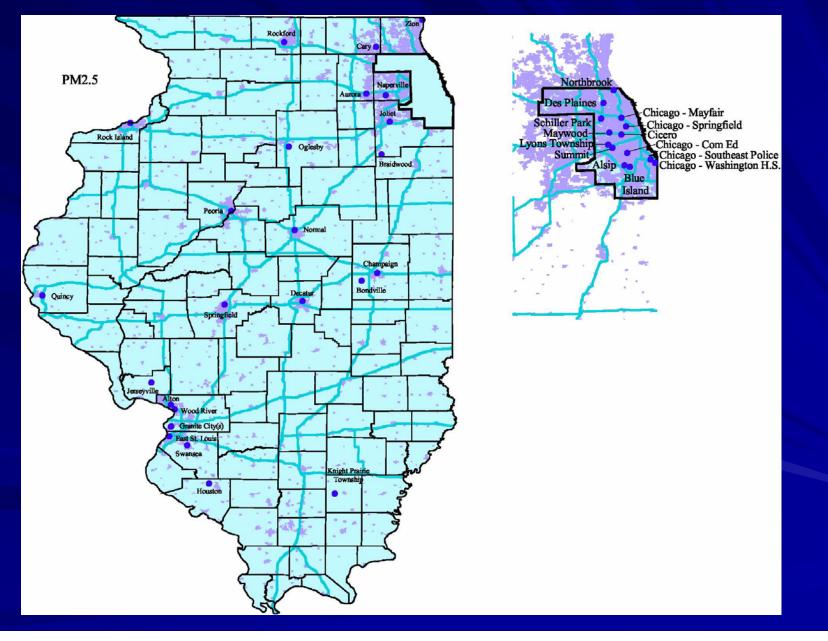
## Ozone status

Ozone attainment demonstration modeling is currently being conducted by LADCO

State regulations such as tighter consumer product standards are being adopted

Attainment of the 8-hour ozone standard is required by April 2010.

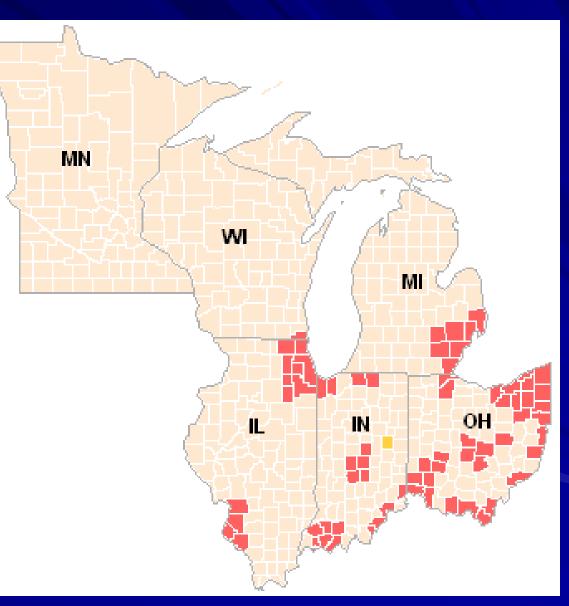
## **PM2.5 Monitor Locations**



#### PM<sub>2.5</sub> Nonattainment Areas (Region V)

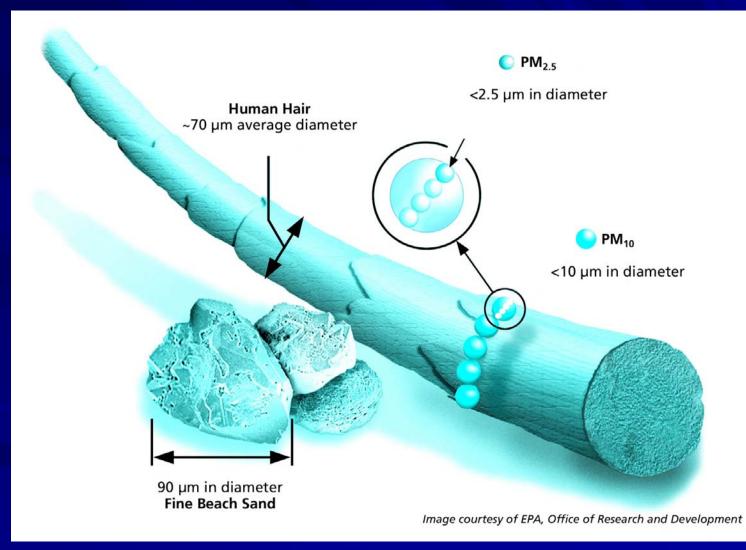
Illinois NAA Counties: Chicago: Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, Will, Grundy (partial), Kendall (partial)

Metro-East St. Louis: Madison, Monroe, St. Clair, Randolph (partial)



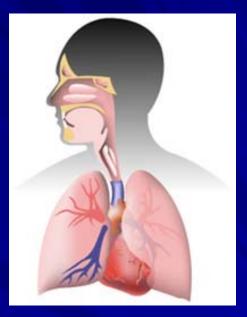
#### Particulate Matter: What is It?

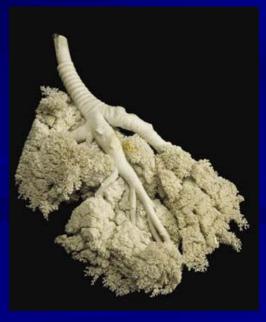
#### A complex mixture of extremely small particles and liquid droplets



## **Particulate Matter**

- Larger particles (> PM<sub>10</sub>) deposit in the upper respiratory tract
- Smaller, inhalable particles (≤ PM<sub>10</sub>) penetrate deep into the lungs





- Both coarse particulate matter and fine particulate matter can penetrate to lower regions of the lung
- Deposited particles may accumulate, react, be cleared or absorbed

### PM Components: fine and coarse

#### Fine Particles

Combustion, gases to particles

Sulfates/acids Nitrate Ammonium Organics Carbon Metals Water



#### Sources:

Coal, oil, gasoline, diesel, wood combustion Transformation of SOx, NOx, organic gases including biogenics High temperature industrial

processes (smelters, steel mills) Forest fires



#### **Inhalable Coarse Particles**

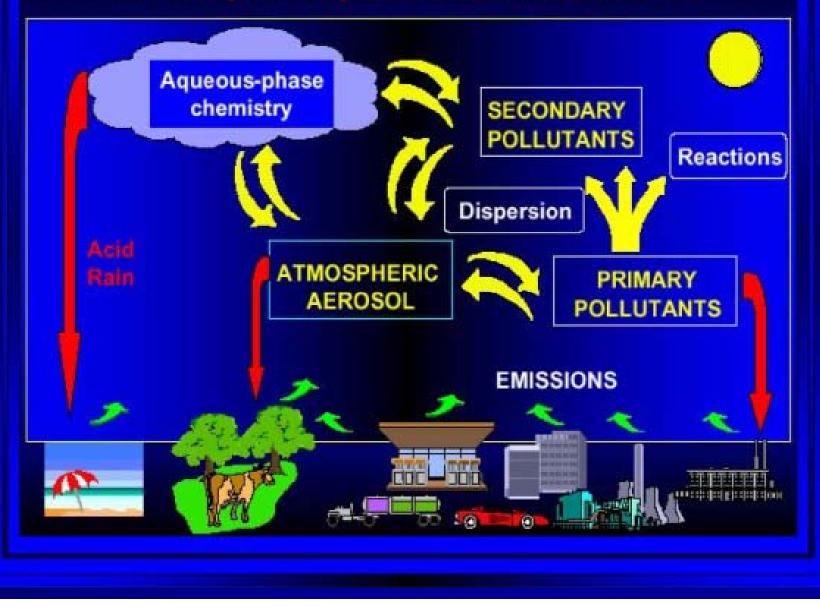
Crushing, grinding, dust Resuspended dusts (soil, street dust) Coal/oil fly ash Aluminum, silica, iron-oxides Tire and brake wear Inhalable Biological Materials (e.g., from soils, plant fragments)



#### Sources:

Resuspension of dust tracked onto roads Suspension from disturbed soil (farms, mines, unpaved roads) Construction/demolition Industrial fugitives Biological sources

## **Atmospheric processes and PM-2.5**



## PM2.5 Control Measures

Targets reducing NOx and SO<sub>2</sub>

 – NOx and SO<sub>2</sub> Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) on 100TPY fuel combustion sources

Initially in nonattainment area, expand to statewide if air quality modeling demonstrates need

Tighter power plant controls statewide – More stringent than federal Clean Air Interstate Regulation (CAIR)

## PM2.5 Control Measures

- Federal Heavy Duty Diesel Engine and Fuels Rule (2006)
  - Restrict sulfur levels in diesel to 15 ppm average (97 percent reduction)
  - New trucks and buses will be 90 cleaner
- Off-Road Diesel Engine Rule
  - Locomotives: reduce NOx by 2/3, HC and PM by 1/2
  - Affects agricultural, construction, industrial equipment
     >50 HP

# **Additional Controls/Programs**

Diesel Engine Retrofits

 Diesel Oxidation Catalysts
 Particulate Filters

- Clean Construction
  - O'Hare Modernization Program
  - Dan Ryan
  - IDOT Construction Dust Control Measures

CMAQ

# PM2.5 Requirements

SIP Attainment Demonstration due in April 2008

Attainment of PM standard required by 2010

CAA allows extension of 5 years with continued emissions reductions

## **Transportation Planning Impacts**

The CAA requires that transportation planning work in concert with to air quality planning (transportation conformity)

The SIP establishes specific pollutant emissions limits from the transportation sector for specific years

On-road motor vehicle emissions estimated from the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) must be at or less than the SIP budget in order for the TIP to be approved and projects funded

# **Other Controls**

## Mercury Rule

- Adopted in 2006
- Requires electric utilities to reduce mercury emissions by 90% by 2009

### Multi-pollutant strategy

Allows more time to meet mercury standard in exchange for additional reductions in NOx and SO2
 Ameren, Dynegy, and Midwest Generation

# **Climate Change**

In October 2006, Governor Blagojevich issued an Executive Order creating the Illinois Climate Change Advisory Group

Goal to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and to 60% below 1990 levels by 2050

Committed the State of IL to joining the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX)

 Reduce GHG emissions from government activities by 6% by 2010

## Illinois Climate Change Advisory Group

#### Five Subgroups formed:

- Power & Energy
- Transportation
- Commercial, Industrial & Agricultural
- Cap and Trade
- Modeling
- Have developed 24 policies for economic and emissions modeling, 20 adopted unanimously:
  - Energy efficiency standards, increased use of renewable energy, Smart Growth Initiatives, expanded use of transit, …

Present final policy recommendations to Governor after September 6, 2007 meeting

