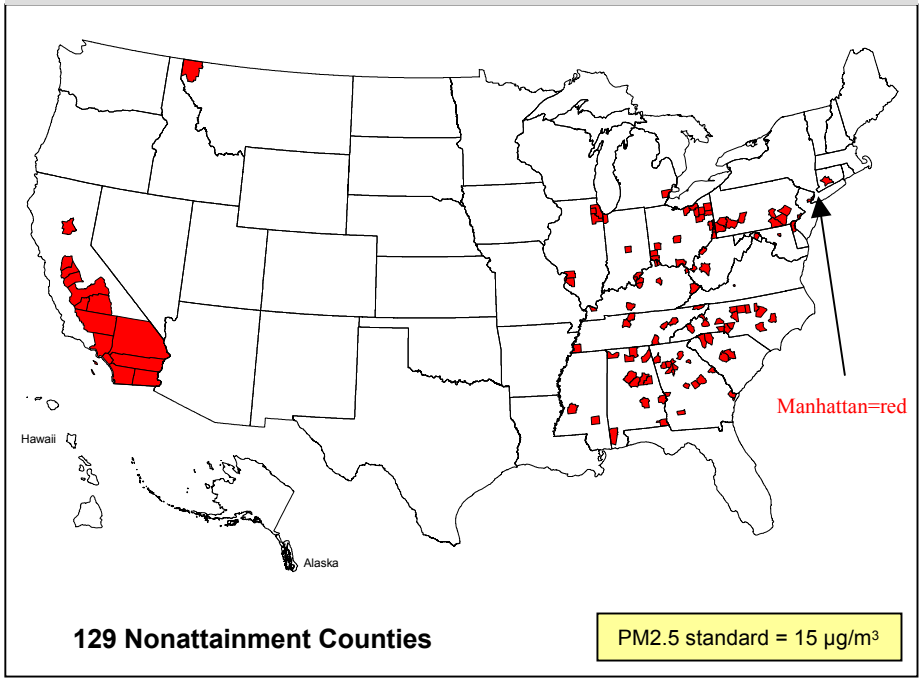
Figure 1: Clear Skies with Other Air Programs Would Substantially Improve Fine Particle Attainment over the Next Two Decades

Counties Exceeding the Annual Fine Particle Standard in 2001

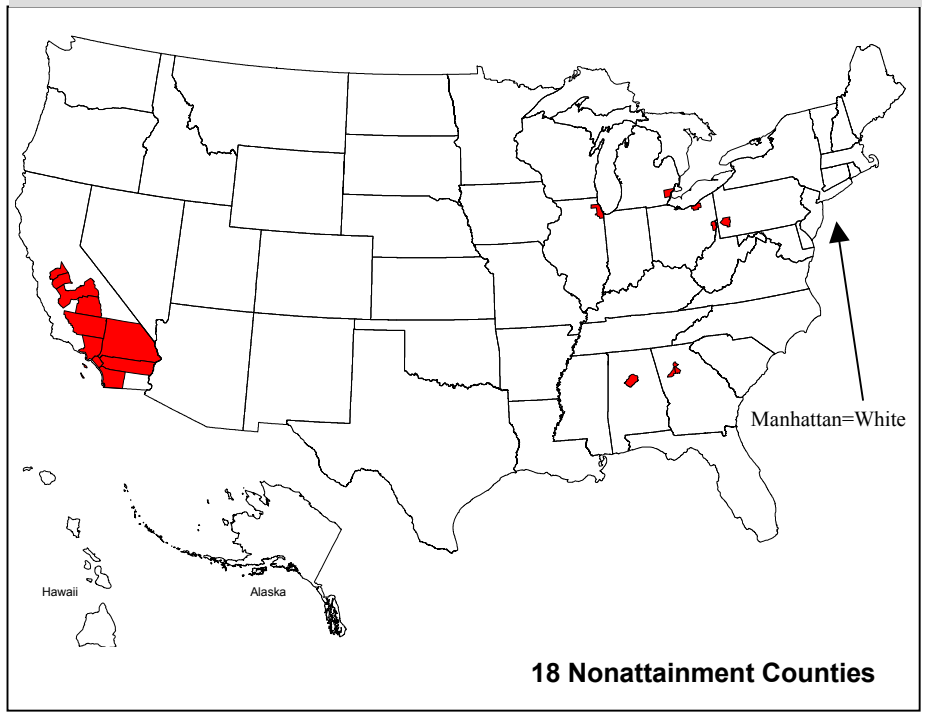


- **There are 129 counties nationwide (114 counties in the East) that are currently estimated to exceed the annual fine particle standard of 15 µ/m³.**
  - **65 million people (43 million people in the East) currently live in counties that would not meet the standard.**

Most counties would be brought into attainment with the $PM_{2.5}$ standard by 2020:

- **Clear Skies and existing programs will bring 111 counties (home to approximately 32 million people) into attainment with the fine particle standard (compared to current conditions).**

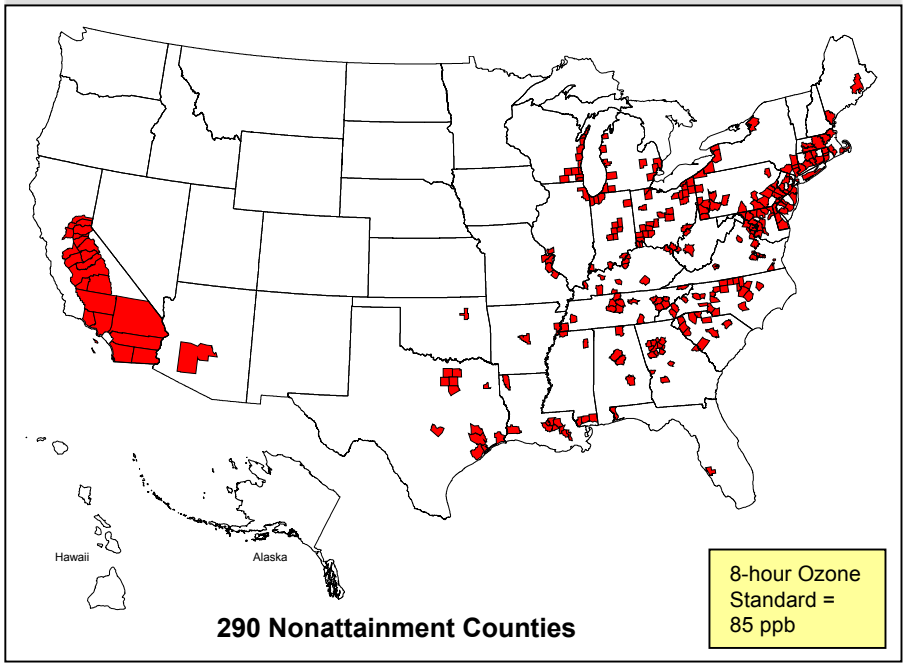
Remaining Counties Likely to Exceed the Annual Fine Particle Standard with Clear Skies and the Base Case in 2020



Notes: Based on 1999-2001 data of counties with monitors that have three years of complete data. Additional federal and state programs must bring all counties into attainment by 2016 at the latest. The methodology used to predict nonattainment status in the West is different than that used for the East.

Figure 2: Clear Skies with Other Air Programs Would Substantially Improve Ozone Attainment over the Next Two Decades

Counties Exceeding the 8-hour Ozone Standard in 2001

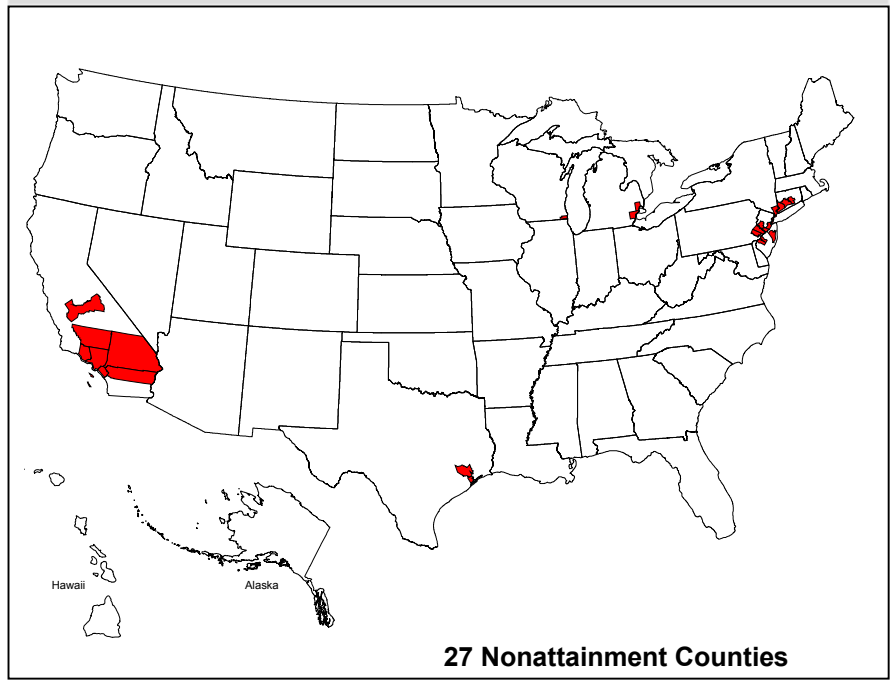


- **There are 290 counties nationwide (268 counties in the East) currently estimated to exceed the 8-hour ozone standard.**
  - **111 million people (87 million people in the East) currently live in counties with projected ozone concentrations greater than the 8-hour ozone standard of 85 ppb.**

Most counties would be brought into attainment with the ozone standard by 2020 :

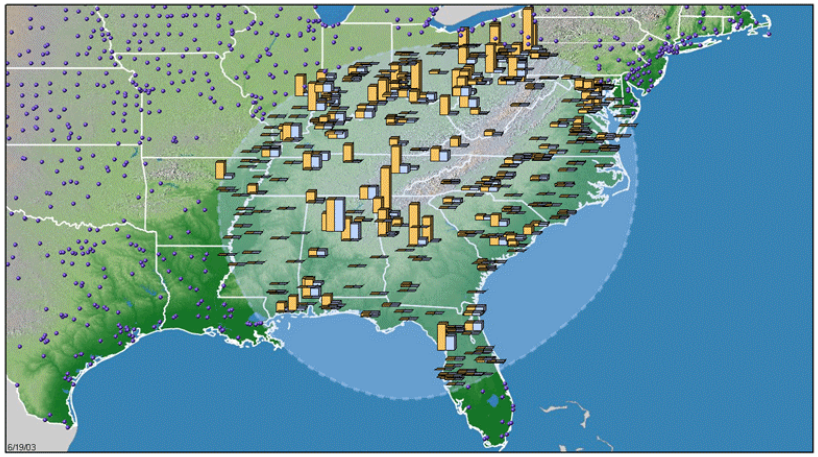
- **Clear Skies and existing programs (primarily the NOx SIP Call and vehicle rules, including the proposed non-road rule) will bring 263 counties (home to approximately 77 million people) into attainment with the 8-hour ozone standard (compared to current conditions).**

Remaining Counties Likely to Exceed the 8-hour Ozone Standard with Clear Skies and the Base Case in 2020



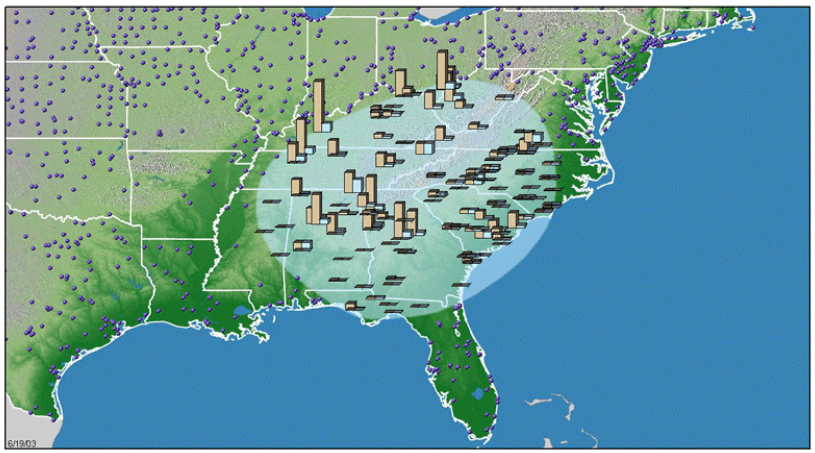
Notes: Based on 1999-2001 data of counties with monitors that have three years of complete data. Additional federal and state programs must bring all counties into attainment between 2007 and 2021. The methodology used to predict nonattainment status in the West is different than that used for the East.

Figure 3: Southern Blue Ridge Mountains Case Study



Projected SO_2 Emissions from Existing Power Generation Sources in the Southern Blue Ridge Airshed (2020)

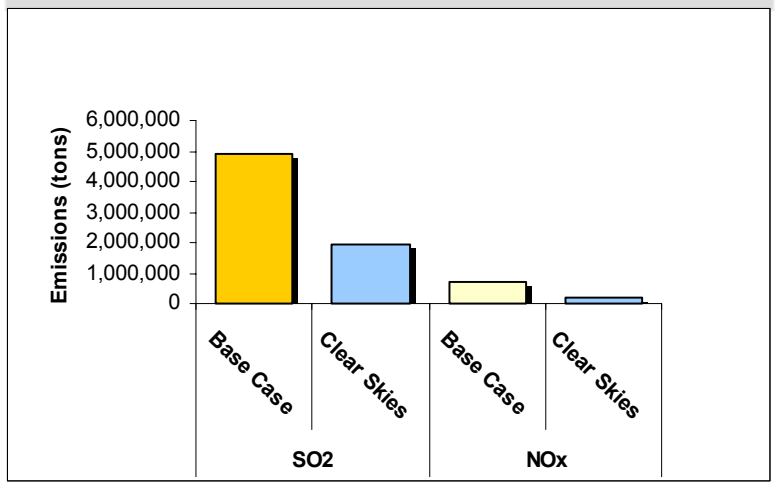
75,000 tons
Base Case Power Plant SO_2
Clear Skies Power Plant SO_2
Other Fossil Power Plants
Sulfur Airshed



Projected NO_x Emissions from Existing Power Generation Sources in the Southern Blue Ridge Airshed (2020)

22,000
Base Case Power Plant NO_x
Clear Skies Power Plant NO_x
Other Fossil Power Plants
Nitrogen Airshed

Note: An "airshed" depicts a modeled approximation of a large proportion of sources contributing to air quality in a particular receptor region.

- This page shows regional airshed maps that were developed for the Southern Blue Ridge Mountains (which includes Great Smoky Mountain National Park).
- Multiple emission sources in numerous states contribute to air quality degradation and acid deposition in the Southern Blue Ridge region.
- In 2020, emissions from power plants in the Southern Blue Ridge region are projected to be substantially lower with Clear Skies than under the Base Case:
  - SO_2 emissions are projected to decrease 61%;
  - NOx emissions are projected to decrease 68%.

SO_2 and NOx Emissions in the Airsheds (2020)