

# AGENDA ITEM 3

## Concept

Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Rule PM2.5 Increment Update (516)

## Reason for Action

To update the federal cross-reference in the PSD rule to reflect the current increments for fine particulate matter (PM2.5).

## Scope/Nature/Summary

North Carolina's prevention of significant deterioration rules incorporate various provisions of the corresponding federal regulations by reference as of a certain date. The current date of incorporation in the state rule needs to be updated to reflect the current PM2.5 increments for the current annual and 24-hour 2006 national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The increment is the maximum allowable increase of a pollutant that is allowed to occur above the applicable baseline concentration in an area that is attainment or unclassifiable for the NAAQS. Increments limit aggregate pollution increases in attainment and unclassifiable areas to prevent significant deterioration of air quality in areas that are meeting the NAAQS. Adoption of increments is a required minimum element for state implementation plan (SIP) approval. The current annual and 24-hour NAAQS and corresponding increments are:

	NAAQS	Increment		
		Area		
		Class I	Class II	Class III
Annual	15 ug/m <sup>3</sup>	1	4	8
24-hour	35 ug/m <sup>3</sup>	2	9	18

Rule 15A NCAC 02D .0530, Prevention of Significant Deterioration, needs to be amended to reflect the current increments. The amendment proposed by staff is necessary to satisfy minimum required elements for approval of the (SIP).

## Statutory Authority

G.S. 143-215.3(a)(1); 143-215.107(a)(3); 143-215.107(a)(5); 143-215.107(a)(7); 143-215.108(b); 150B-21.6.