

REGIONAL HAZE FACTSHEET

CLEARING THE AIR

Air pollution remains one of the most serious problems facing national parks. It is threatening the health of park visitors, wildlife and neighboring communities, driving the climate crisis and compromising our views with hazy skies. In fact, nearly 90 percent of our more than 400 national parks are plagued by haze pollution caused mostly by coal plants, vehicles and other industrial sources, as well as oil and gas development and operations.

Fortunately, certain national parks and wilderness areas, labeled "Class I" areas, have the strongest clean air protections in the country, mandated by the Clean Air Act (CAA). The Regional Haze Rule is the CAA's time-tested, effective program that requires federal and state agencies as well as stakeholders to work together to restore clear skies at Class I areas around the country. In New Jersey those places include Brigantine Wilderness Area.

New York already submitted its plan to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) specifying the pollution reducing measures it will require to make progress towards natural visibility, but we urge EPA to ensure the plan is strengthened.

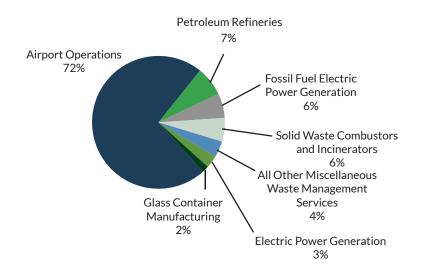


Views across the water at Brigantine Wilderness Area, NJ. Credit © Brian Braudis NPCA analysis of impact of industrial facilities based on publicly available emissions data from the EPA's 2017 National Emissions Inventory (NEI) and the 2019 Air Markets Program Data (AMPD).

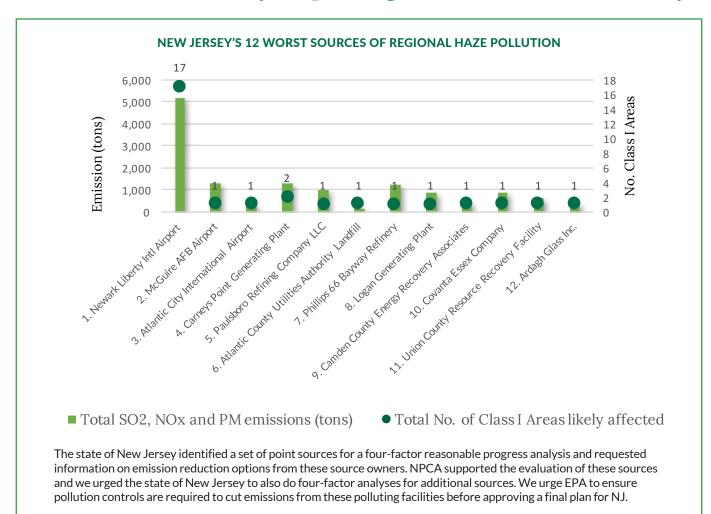
NEW JERSEY'S INDUSTRIAL SECTORS OF HAZE POLLUTION

NPCA analyzed publicly available data to identify the worst sources and industrial sectors of haze pollution potentially affecting Class I Areas. We evaluated these emitters to determine which sources should be selected by the state for a four-factor reasonable progress analysis.

The chart on the right shows the industrial sectors emitting the most visibility impairing pollution in New Jersey.



Sources of Visibility Impairing Pollution in New Jersey



HOW MANY FOOTBALL STADIUMS (8 STORIES HIGH) COULD EACH OF THE TOP FIVE INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES IN NEW JERSEY FILL WITH THEIR EMISSIONS EACH YEAR?



TAKE ACTION: We have an opportunity to achieve a regional haze plan for New Jersey that protects people, parks, and our future. Please join our effort to ensure that all decision-makers and stakeholders, at the federal, state, and municipal level work to make this happen.

For more information, please contact Lauren Cosgrove at Icosgrove@npca.org.