



REGIONAL HAZE FACTSHEET

NEW MEXICO

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 Mexico those places include Bandelier National Monument, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, and Pecos Wilderness Area.

In order to meet this requirement, New Mexico was supposed to submit its regional haze plan to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by July 2021. In August 2022, EPA issued a [finding of failure to submit](#), which starts a two year deadline for New Mexico to submit their plan before EPA steps in and issues one for them. We urge New Mexico to swiftly release their haze plan for public comment and submit to EPA in order to ensure expeditious compliance with the haze program and deliver clean air benefits to Bandelier, Carlsbad Caverns, Pecos Wilderness and other Class 1 areas in the region.



8

Industrial facilities in New Mexico potentially affecting visibility in 69 regional Class 1 Areas.



100

Industrial facilities from any state potentially affecting visibility in New Mexico’s 9 Class 1 Areas.

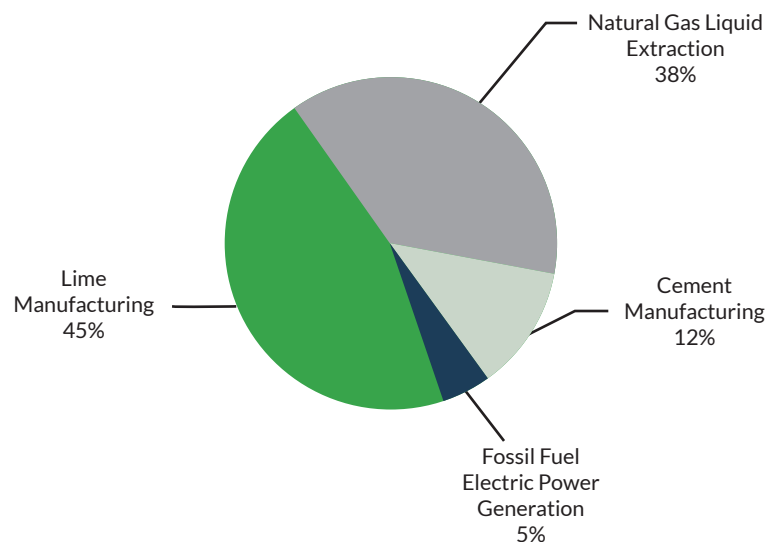
NPCA analysis of impact of industrial facilities based on publicly available emissions data from the EPA’s 2017 National Emissions Inventory (NEI) and the 2019 Air Markets Program Data (AMPD). Note that data regarding emission numbers and sources of pollution may have changed since the creation of this fact sheet. Please contact dorozco@npca.org for updated data information.

NEW MEXICO’S INDUSTRIAL SECTORS OF HAZE POLLUTION

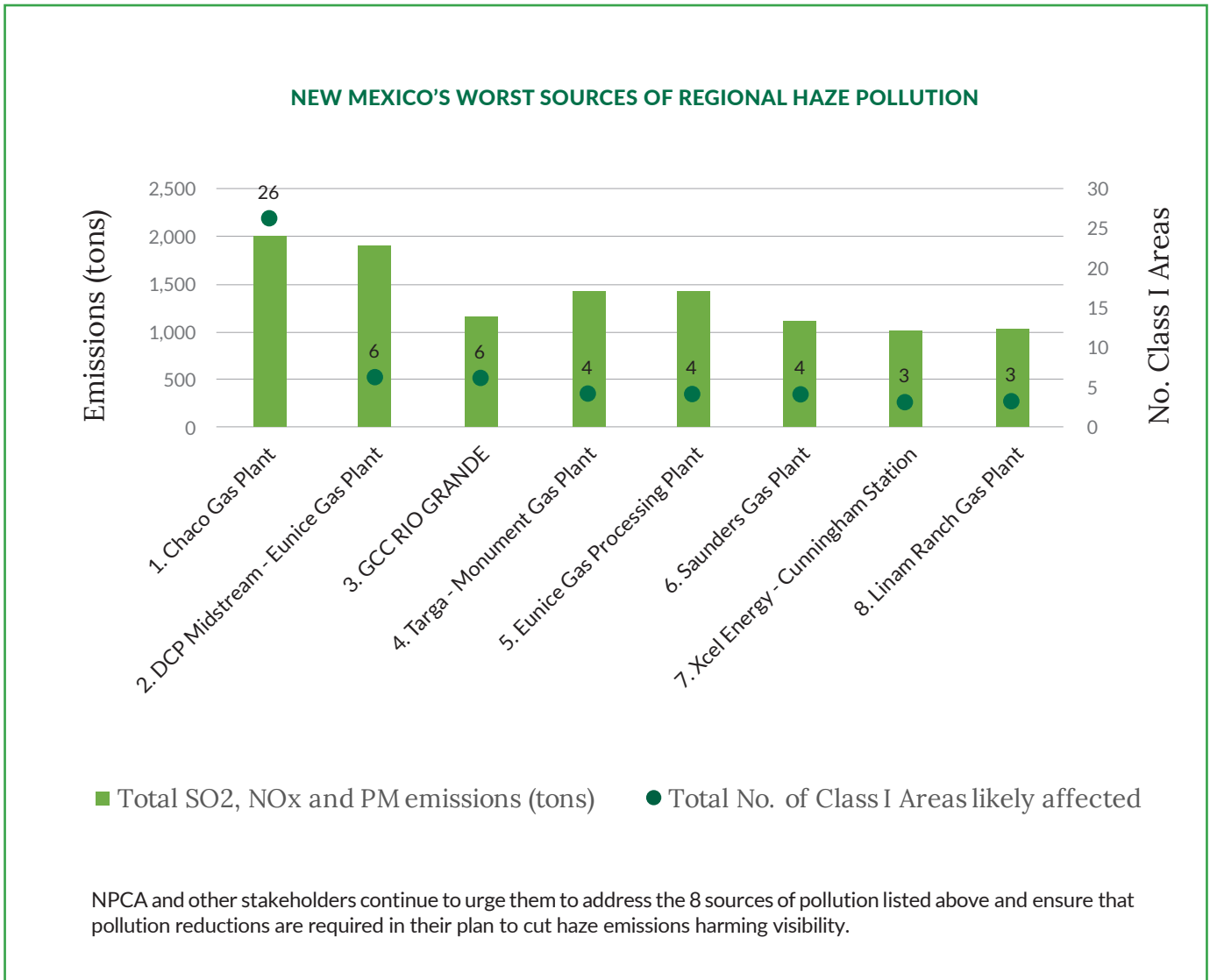
NPCA analyzed publicly available data to identify the worst sources and industrial sectors of haze pollution potentially affecting Class I Areas.

We evaluated these emitters to determine which sources should be selected by the state for a four-factor reasonable progress analysis.

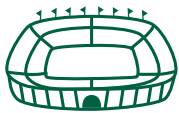
The chart on the right shows New Mexico’s industrial sectors emitting the most visibility impairing pollution.



Sources of Visibility Impairing Pollution in New Mexico

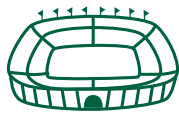


HOW MANY FOOTBALL STADIUMS (8 STORIES HIGH) COULD EACH OF THE TOP FIVE INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES IN NEW MEXICO FILL WITH THEIR EMISSIONS EACH YEAR?



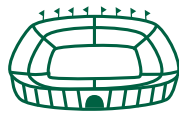
8

Chaco Gas Plant
San Juan County
1,987 tons



8

DCP Midstream -
Eunice Gas Plant
Lea County
1,893 tons



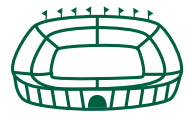
5

GCC Rio Grande
Bernalillo County
1,151 tons



6

Targa - Monument
Gas Plant
Lea County
1,414 tons

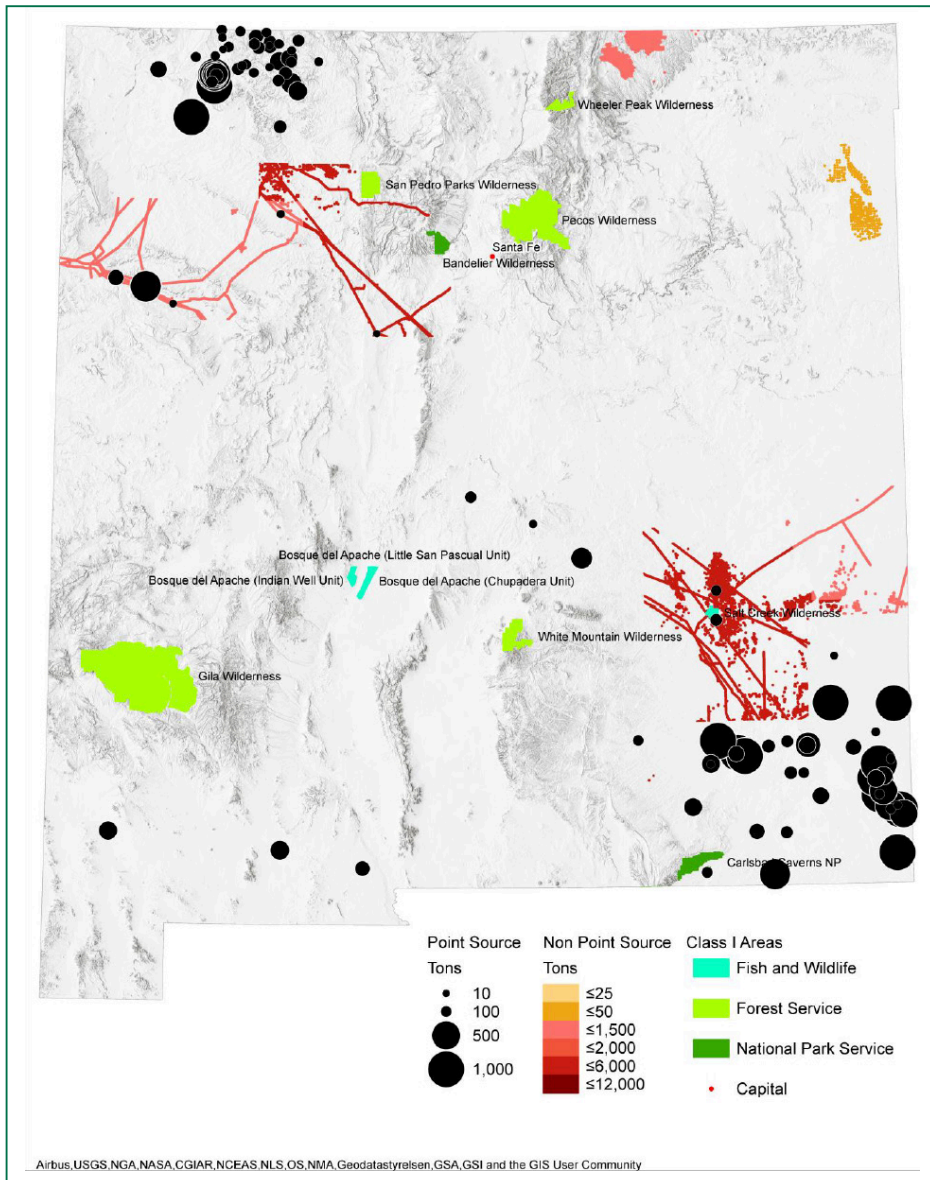


6

Eunice Gas
Processing Plant
Lea County
1,423 tons

Point and Non-Point Sources of Visibility Impairing Pollution from the Oil and Gas Sector

This map shows the point and non-point emissions associated with the oil and gas industrial sector in New Mexico. Pollution released from various processes across oil and gas development and operations including wells, drilling rigs, compressor stations, refineries, and pipelines. Pollution from these sources must be reduced to help restore national park and wilderness area visibility.



Oil and Gas Point Sources
Chaco Gas Plant
DCP Midstream - Eunice Gas Plant
Bitter Lake Compressor Station
Eunice Gas Processing Plant
Targa - Monument Gas Plant
Saunders Gas Plant
Artesia Gas Plant
Kutz Canyon Processing Plant
Pecos River Compressor Station
Linam Ranch Gas Plant
Jal No3 Gas Plant
Denton Gas Plant
Washington Ranch Storage Facility
Blanco Compressor A, C & D Station
Harvest Pipeline - San Juan Gas Plant
Oxy - Indian Basin Gas Plant
Enterprise - South Carlsbad Compressor Station
Empire Abo Gas Plant/Compressor Station
Corona Compressor Station

New Mexico is reviewing the sources in black for emission reductions.

NPCA supports review of these sources and urges the state to also do a four-factor reasonable progress analysis for the oil and gas sector sources listed in red.

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

For more information, please contact Emily Wolf at ewolf@npca.org or Mike Eisenfeld of San Juan Citizen's Alliance at mike@sanjuancitizens.org.