



## REGIONAL HAZE FACTSHEET

# NEBRASKA

### 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. While Nebraska is not home to its own Class I areas, pollution from the state affects protected areas outside the state like Badlands National Park in South Dakota and Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado.

In order to meet this requirement, Nebraska 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 Nebraska to submit their plan, before EPA steps in and issues one for them. We urge Nebraska 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 Badlands and Rocky Mountain National Parks, and other Class 1 areas.



# 6

Industrial facilities in Nebraska potentially affecting visibility in 50 regional Class I Areas.

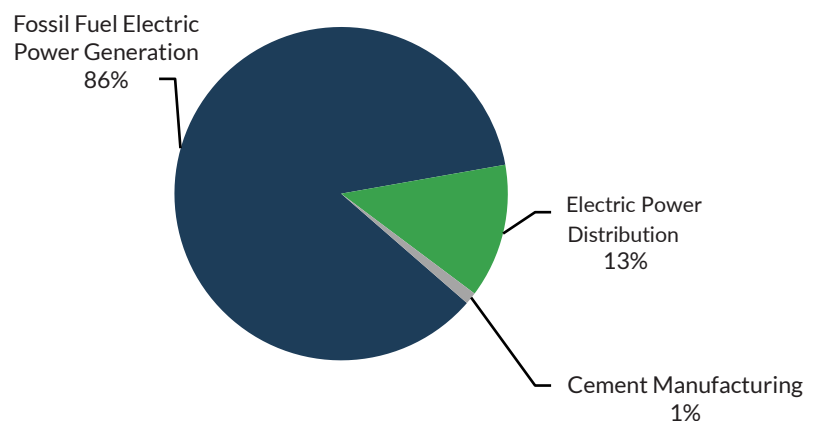
Badlands National Park, South Dakota. Credit © Donfink | Dreamstime.com

*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](mailto:dorozco@npca.org) for updated data information.*

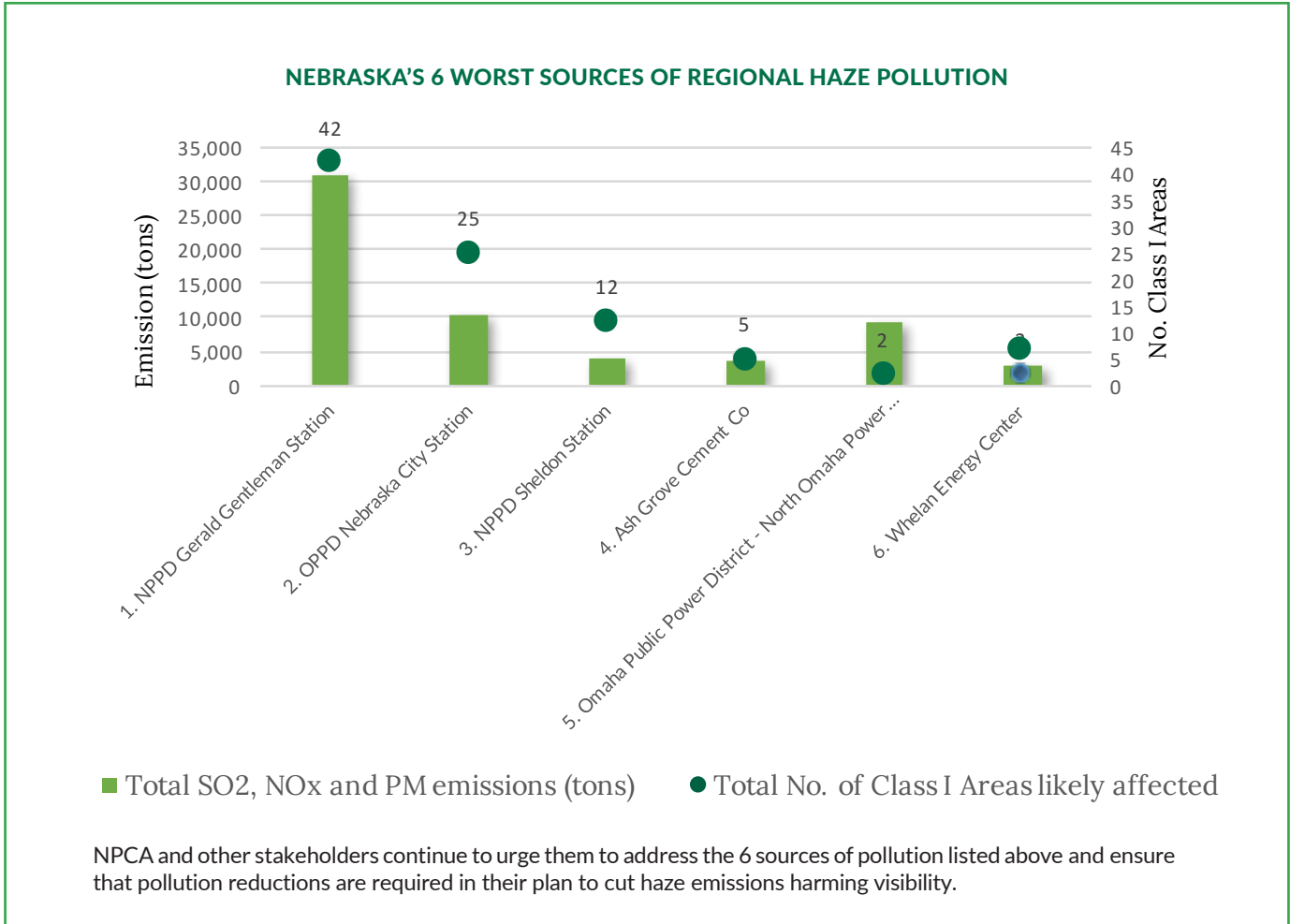
### NEBRASKA’S INDUSTRIAL SECTORS OF HAZE POLLUTION

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 Nebraska.



# Sources of Visibility Impairing Pollution in Nebraska

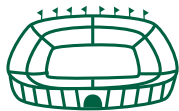


## HOW MANY FOOTBALL STADIUMS (8 STORIES HIGH) COULD EACH OF THE TOP FIVE INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES IN NEBRASKA FILL WITH THEIR EMISSIONS EACH YEAR?



**124**

NPPD Gerald Gentleman Station  
Lincoln County  
**30,889 tons**



**41**

OPPD Nebraska City Station  
Otoe County  
**10,198 tons**



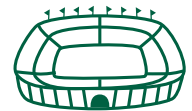
**16**

NPPD Sheldon Station  
Lancaster County  
**4,095 tons**



**14**

Ash Grove Cement Co.  
Cass County  
**3,452 tons**



**37**

Omaha Public Power District - North Omaha Power Station  
Douglas County  
**9,136 tons**

**TAKE ACTION:** We have an opportunity to achieve a regional haze plan for STATE 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 Natalie Levine at [nlevine@npca.org](mailto:nlevine@npca.org).