

BART Air Modeling Protocol
Individual Source Visibility Assessments
for BART Control Analyses

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The U.S. EPA has issued final amendments to the Regional Haze Regulations, along with Guidelines for Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Determinations.⁽¹⁾ The guidelines address the methodology for determining which facilities must apply BART (sources subject-to-BART) and the evaluation of control options.

The State of Wyoming used air quality modeling in accordance with the EPA Guidelines to determine the Wyoming sources which are subject-to-BART. This Protocol defines the specific methodology to be used by those sources for determining the improvement in visibility to be achieved by BART controls.

The methodology presented in this Protocol is consistent with EPA guidance and the Air Quality Division (AQD) determination of subject-to-BART sources. It is intended that all Wyoming sources that must conduct BART analyses will use this Protocol for their evaluation of control technology visibility improvement. Any deviations from the procedures described herein must be approved by the Division prior to implementation.

⁽¹⁾ 40 CFR Part 51: Regional Haze Regulations and Guidelines for Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Determinations; Final Rule. 70 Federal Register, 39103-39172, July 6, 2005.

2.0 OVERVIEW

Wyoming AQD determined that eight facilities (sources) in the state are subject-to-BART. The sources are listed in Table 1. Division modeling indicated that each of these sources causes or contributes to visibility impairment in one or more Class I areas. Each source must conduct a BART analysis to define Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) applicable to that source, and quantify the improvement in Class I visibility associated with BART controls. This Protocol sets out the procedures for quantifying visibility improvement. Other aspects of the full BART analysis are not addressed here.

There are many Class I areas within and surrounding Wyoming (See Figure 1). On the basis of distance from subject-to-BART sources, topography, meteorology, and prior modeling, the AQD has determined that only five Class I areas need be addressed in BART individual source analyses. These are Badlands and Wind Cave National Parks in South Dakota, Mt. Zirkel Wilderness Area in Colorado, and Bridger and Fitzpatrick Wilderness Areas in Wyoming. Sources in eastern Wyoming have been shown to have greatest visibility impacts at the two South Dakota Class I areas, and western Wyoming sources have maximum impacts at Bridger and Fitzpatrick Wilderness Areas, and Mt. Zirkel. Visibility improvement at these highest impact areas will provide the best measure of the effectiveness of BART controls.

Each facility should carry out modeling with the CALPUFF modeling system for the Class I areas specified in Table 2. The AQD will provide meteorological input for CALMET for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003. The model domain covered by the AQD meteorological data is centered in southwest Wyoming, and extends roughly from Twin Falls, ID in the west to the Missouri River in the east, and from Denver in the south to Helena, MT in the north. The domain is shown, along with Class I areas, in Figure 1.

Sources may wish to utilize a smaller domain for CALPUFF modeling. Smaller domains are acceptable if they provide adequate additional area beyond the specific source and Class I areas being addressed. Figure 1 includes a “southwest Wyoming” domain which represents the minimum acceptable area for sources impacting the Bridger and Fitzpatrick Wilderness Areas, and the Mt. Zirkel Wilderness Area, and a “northeast Wyoming” domain as a minimum area for Badlands and Wind Cave National Parks modeling.

The CALPUFF model should be used with each of the three years of meteorological data to calculate visibility impacts for a baseline (existing emissions) case, and for cases reflecting BART controls. The control scenarios are to include individual scenarios for proposed BART controls for each pollutant (SO₂, NO_x, and particulate matter), and a combined scenario representing application of all proposed BART controls. If desired, additional modeling may be performed for controls that are not selected as BART. This might be done, for example, to provide data useful in identifying the control technologies that represent BART. However, visibility modeling is required only for the proposed BART controls.

Table 1. Wyoming Sources Subject-to-BART

Basin Electric	Laramie River Power Plant	Boilers #1,2,3
FMC Corporation	Granger Soda Ash Plant	Boilers #1,2
FMC Corporation	Green River Sodium Plant	Three boilers
General Chemical Co.	Green River Soda Ash	Two boilers
PacifiCorp	Dave Johnson Power Plant	Boilers #3,4
PacifiCorp	Jim Bridger Power Plant	Boilers #1-4
PacifiCorp	Naughton Power Plant	Boilers #1,2,3
PacifiCorp	Wyodak Power Plant	Boiler

Results of visibility modeling will be presented as a comparison between baseline impacts and those calculated for the BART control scenarios. Quantitative measures of impact will be the 98th percentile deciview change (Δdv) relative to the 20% best days natural background, and the number of days with deciview change exceeding 0.5 (EPA Regional Haze Regulations and Guidelines for Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Determinations, 70 FR 39103). Results should be presented for each year.

Table 2. Source-Specific Class I Areas to be Addressed

Source	Class I Areas to be Evaluated
Basin Electric Laramie River	Wind Cave NP, Badlands NP
FMC Corporation Granger Soda Ash	Bridger WA, Fitzpatrick WA
FMC Corporation Sodium Products	Bridger WA, Fitzpatrick WA
General Chemical Green River Soda Ash	Bridger WA, Fitzpatrick WA
Pacificorp Dave Johnston	Wind Cave NP, Badlands NP
Pacificorp Jim Bridger	Bridger WA, Fitzpatrick WA, Mt. Zirkel WA
Pacificorp Naughton Plant	Bridger WA, Fitzpatrick WA
Pacificorp Wyodak	Wind Cave NP, Badlands NP

3.0 EMISSIONS DATA FOR MODELING

CALPUFF model input requires source (stack) – specific emission rates for each pollutant, and stack parameters (height, diameter, exit gas temperature, and exit gas velocity). Per EPA BART guidance, these parameters must be representative of maximum actual 24-hour average emitting conditions for baseline (existing) operation, and maximum proposed 24-hour average emissions for future (BART) operations.

3.1 Baseline Modeling

Sources are required to utilize representative baseline emission conditions if data are available; baseline emissions must be documented. Possible sources of emission data are stack tests, CEM data, fuel consumption data, etc. Remember that emissions should represent maximum 24-hour rates. EPA BART guidance states that you should “Use the 24-hour average actual emission rate from the highest emitting day of the meteorological period modeled (for the pre-control scenario).” Thus, baseline conditions should reference data from 2001 through 2003 (or 2004).

As a minimum, modeled emissions must include:

SO ₂	sulfur dioxide
NO _x	oxides of nitrogen
PM _{2.5}	particles with diameter less than 2.5µm
PM _{10-2.5}	particles with diameters greater than 2.5µm but less than or equal to 10 µm

If the fraction of PM₁₀ in the PM_{2.5} (fine) and PM_{10-2.5} (coarse) categories cannot be determined all particulate matter should be assumed to be PM_{2.5}.

In addition, direct emissions of sulfate (SO₄) should be included where possible. Sulfate can be emitted as sulfuric acid (H₂SO₄), sulfur trioxide (SO₃), or as sulfate compounds; emissions should be quantified as the equivalent mass of SO₄.

When test or engineering data are not available to specify SO₄ emissions or the relative fractions of fine and coarse particles, use can be made of speciation profiles available from Federal Land Managers at the website <http://ww2.nature.nps.gov/air/permits/ect/index.cfm>. Profiles are available for a number of source type and control technology combinations. The FLM speciation factors are acceptable if data are available for the appropriate source type.

Emissions of VOC (volatile organic compounds), condensable organics measured in stack tests, and elemental carbon components of PM₁₀ do not need to be included for BART modeling. The only other pollutant noted in EPA BART guidance is ammonia (NH₃). Though ammonia is not believed to be a significant contributor to visibility

impairment in most cases in Wyoming, it could be important for sources with significant ammonia emissions – for example from some NO_x control systems. Sources that are expected to emit ammonia (in pre-or post-control configurations) should include ammonia emissions in their model input.

If quantitative baseline emissions data are unavailable and sources believe that the maximum 24-hour emission rates estimated by the Division (presented in the Subject-to-BART final report) are representative of baseline conditions for their facility, they may be used for baseline modeling. However, emissions of sulfate and ammonia (if applicable) should be included based on the best available test information or speciation factors from current literature.

3.2 Post-Control Modeling

All pollutants described above should be included for each post-control scenario. Post-control emissions (maximum 24-hour average) will generally be the baseline emissions multiplied by a control factor appropriate to the BART control. However, some proposed controls may simply increase the efficiency of existing controls; others may result in an increase in emissions of one pollutant while controlling another. These factors must all be considered in defining emission rates for post-control modeling. Any changes in stack parameters resulting from control application must also be included.

The required visibility assessment will include the effect of each proposed BART control. For example, if a source proposes to add a scrubber for SO₂ control, low NO_x burners for NO_x control, and a baghouse for particulate control, four sets of visibility results should be developed:

- Use of SO₂ control alone
- Use of NO_x control alone
- Use of particulate control alone
- Use of proposed combination of all three controls

All pollutants should be modeled in each CALPUFF model run, but the modeled emissions should reflect only the specific controls or combination of controls addressed in that run.

Additional modeling could be necessary in situations where a facility is comprised of more than one subject-to-BART source, and different BART controls are applicable to different sources. Excessive modeling to address multiple control combinations is not necessary; however, visibility modeling should quantify the effect of BART controls on all affected sources for each pollutant, and of all facility BART controls combined.

4.0 METEOROLOGICAL DATA

Wyoming AQD will provide MM5 meteorological data fields for years 2001, 2002, and 2003 that can be utilized as input to CALMET. The MM5 output will have 12 kilometer resolution and cover the full domain shown in Figure 1.

Mesoscale meteorological data (MM5) were developed and evaluated as part of the AQD's southwest Wyoming NO₂ increment analysis. Three years of MM5 data at 36 km resolution were used to initialize 12 km MM5 simulations. The 12km MM5 modeling used identical physics options to the original 36 km runs. CALMM5 was then used as a preprocessor to produce CALMET – ready MM5 data input files. Quality assurance was performed by comparing the original MM5 output on the 36km national RPO grid to the 12 km MM5 output and observations.

The CALMET model (version 5.53a, level 040716) should be used to prepare meteorological input for CALPUFF. The user may select a domain smaller than the MM5 domain for CALMET and CALPUFF modeling if desired. Figure 1 shows minimum domain areas for modeling of western and eastern Wyoming BART sources. Four kilometer resolution should be specified for CALMET output.

CALMET processing should use the AQD MM5 data, and appropriate surface, upper air, and precipitation data. Figure 2 shows the locations of surface and upper air stations within the MM5 model domain. The MM5 data are used as the initial guess wind field; this wind field is then adjusted by CALMET for terrain and land use to generate a step 1 wind field, and refined using surface and upper air data to create the final step 2 wind field.

Surface, upper air, and precipitation data can be obtained from the National Climatic Data Center. Land use and terrain data are available from the U.S. Geological Survey. Data can be formatted for use in CALMET with standard conversion and processing programs available with the CALMET/CALPUFF software.

Table 3 provides a listing of applicable CALMET input variables for BART meteorological processing. The table includes inputs that are specific to Wyoming BART modeling. Inputs not shown in Table 3 are not relevant to the present application, are dependent on the specific model domain of the user, use model default values, or are obvious from the context.

Table 3. CALMET Control File Inputs

Variable	Description	Value
Input Group 1		
IBYR	Year	2001
		2002
		2003
IBTZ	Base time zone	7
IRTYPE	Run type	1
LCALGRD	Compute data fields for CALGRID	T
Input Group 2		
PMAP	Map projection	LCC
DGRIDKM	Grid spacing (km)	4
NZ	Number of layers	10
ZFACE	Cell face heights (m)	0
		20
		40
		100
		140
		320
		580
		1020
		1480
		2220
		3500
Input Group 4		
NOOBS	No observation Mode	0
Input Group 5		
IWFCOD	Model selection variable	1
IFRADJ	Froude number adjustment	1
IKINE	Kinematic effects	0
IOBR	Use O'Brien procedure	0
ISLOPE	Slope flow effects	1
IEXTRP	Extrapolate surface wind observations	-4
ICALM	Extrapolate calm surface winds	0
BIAS	Biases for weights of surface and upper air stations	All 0
RMIN2	Minimum distance for extrapolation	-1
IPROG	Use gridded prognostic model output	14
ISTEPPG	Time Step (hours)	1
LVARY	Use varying radius of influence	F

Table 3. CALMET Control File Inputs (continued)

Variable	Description	Value
RMAX 1	Maximum radius of influence (km)	30
RMAX 2	Maximum radius of influence (km)	50
RMIN	Minimum radius of influence (km)	0.1
TERRAD	Radius of influence for terrain (km)	15
R1	Relative weighting of first guess wind field and observations (km)	5
R2	Relative weighting aloft (km)	25
IDIOPT 1	Surface temperature	0
IDIOPT 2	Upper air lapse rate	0
ZUPT	Lapse rate depth (m)	200
IDIOPT 3	Average wind components	0
IUPWND	Upper air station	-1
ZUPWND (1)	Bottom and top of layer for domain scale winds (m)	1, 1000
ZUPWND (2)		1, 1000
IDIOPT4	Surface wind components	0
IDIOPT5	Upper air wind components	0
Input Group 6		
IAVEZI	Spatial averaging	1
MNMDAV	Max search radius	1
HAFANG	Half angle for averaging (deg)	30
ILEVZI	Layer of winds in averaging	1
ZIMAX	Maximum overland mixing height (m)	3500
ITPROG	3D temperature source	1
IRAD	Interpolation type	1
TRADKM	Radius of influence – temperature (km)	500
NUMTS	Maximum number of Stations	5
IAVET	Spatial averaging of temperatures	1
NFLAGP	Precipitation interpolation	2

5.0 CALPUFF MODEL APPLICATION

The CALPUFF model (version 5.711a, level 040716) will be used to calculate pollutant concentrations at receptors in each Class I area. Application of CALPUFF should, in general, follow the guidance presented in the Interagency Workgroup on Air Quality Modeling (IWAQM) Phase 2 report (EPA – 454/R98-019) and the EPA Regional Haze Regulations and Guidelines for BART Determinations (70 FR 39103).

Appropriate CALPUFF control file inputs are in Table 4. Note should be taken of the basis for several of the recommended CALPUFF inputs.

- Building downwash effects need not be included. Because of the transport distances involved and the fact that most sources have tall stacks, building downwash is unlikely to have a significant effect on model-predicted concentrations
- Puff splitting is not required. The additional computation time necessary for puff splitting is not justified for purposes of BART analyses.
- Hourly ozone files should be used to define background ozone concentration. Data are available from the following sites within the model domain.
 - Rocky Mountain NP, CO
 - Craters of the Moon NP, ID
 - AIRS – Highland UT
 - Mountain Thunder, WY
 - Yellowstone NP, WY
 - Centennial, WY
 - Pinedale, WY

The background ozone concentration shown in Table 4 is used only when hourly data are missing.

- A constant background ammonia concentration of 2.0 ppb is specified. This value is based upon monitoring data from nearby states and IWAQM guidance. Experience suggests that 2.0 ppb is conservative in that it is unlikely to significantly limit nitrate formation in the model computations.
- MESOPUFF II chemical transformation rates should be used.
- The species to be modeled should be the seven identified in CALPUFF: SO₂, SO₄, NO_x, HNO₃, NO₃, PM_{2.5}, and PM_{10-2.5}. If ammonia (NH₃) is emitted it should be added to the species list. In most cases, all pollutants modeled will also be emitted, except for HNO₃ and NO₃.

Concentration calculations should be made for receptors covering the areas of the Class I areas being addressed. Receptors in each Class I area will be those designated by the Federal Land Managers and available from the National Park Service website.

Table 4. CALPUFF Control File Inputs

Variable	Description	Value
	Input Group 1	
METRUN	Control parameter for running all periods in met file	1
IBYR	Starting year	2001 2002 2003
XBTZ	Base time zone	7
NSPEC	Number of chemical species modeled	7 (or 8)
NSE	Number of species emitted	5 (or 6)
METFM	Meteorological data format	1
	Input Group 2	
MGAUSS	Vertical distribution in near field	1
MCTADJ	Terrain adjustment method	3
MCTSG	Subgrid scale complex terrain	0
MSLUG	Elongated puffs	0
MTRANS	Transitional plume rise	1
MTIP	Stack tip downwash	1
MSHEAR	Vertical wind shear	0
MSPLIT	Puff splitting allowed?	0
MCHEM	Chemical mechanism	1
MAQCHEM	Aqueous phase transformation	0
MWET	Wet removal	1
MDRY	Dry deposition	1
MDISP	Dispersion Coefficients	3
MROUGH	Adjust sigma for roughness	0
MPARTL	Partial plume penetration of inversions	1
MPDF	PDF for convective conditions	0
	Input Group 4	
PMAP	Map projection	LCC
DGRIDKM	Grid spacing	4

Table 4. CALPUFF Control File Inputs (continued)

ZFACE	Cell face heights (m)	0
		20
		40
		100
		140
		320
		580
		1020
		1480
		2220
		3500
	Input Group 6	
NHILL	Number of terrain features	0
	Input Group 7	
Dry Gas Depo	Chemical parameters for dry gas deposition	Defaults
	Input Group 8	
Dry Part. Depo	Size parameters for dry particle deposition SO ₄ , NO ₃ , PM ₂₅ PM ₁₀	Defaults 6.5, 1.0
	Input Group 11	
MOZ	Ozone Input option	1
BCKO3	Background ozone – all months (ppb)	44.0
BCKNH3	Background ammonia – all months (ppb)	2.0
	Input Group 12	
XMAXZI	Maximum mixing height (m)	3500
XMINZI	Minimum mixing height (m)	50

6.0 POST PROCESSING

Visibility impacts are calculated from the CALPUFF concentration results using CALPOST. CALPOST version 5.51, level 030709 should be used; the output from CALPOST will provide the highest deciview impact on each day from all receptors within each Class I area modeled.

For some CALPUFF applications such as deposition calculations, the POSTUTIL program is used prior to CALPOST. POSTUTIL is also used to repartition total nitrate by accounting for ammonia limiting. The ammonia limiting calculation in POSTUTIL should not be applied for Wyoming BART modeling. If you believe that ammonia limiting is appropriate for a specific BART analysis, justification should be discussed with the Division prior to its used.

Visibility calculations by CALPOST for BART purposes use Method 6. This method requires input of monthly relative humidity factors, $f(RH)$, for each Class I area. The EPA guidance document provides appropriate data for each area. Table 5 lists monthly $f(RH)$ factors to use for the Wyoming, Colorado, and South Dakota areas to be addressed in BART modeling. The factors shown in Table 5 include averages for the adjacent Class I areas, and are within 0.2 units of the Guideline table values for the individual Class I areas.

Natural background conditions as a reference for determination of the delta-dv change due to a source should be representative of the 20% best natural visibility days. EPA BART guidance provides the 20% best days deciview values for each Class I area on an annual basis, but does not provide species concentration data for the 20% best background conditions. These concentrations are needed for input to CALPOST.

Annual species concentrations corresponding to the 20% best days were calculated for each Class I area to be addressed, by scaling back the annual average concentrations given in Guidance for Estimating Natural Visibility Conditions Under the Regional Haze Rule (Table 2-1). A separate scaling factor was derived for each Class I area such that, when multiplied by the Guidance table annual concentrations, the 20% best days deciview value for that area would be calculated. The scaled aerosol concentrations were averaged for the Bridger and Fitzpatrick WAs, and for Wind Cave and Badlands NPs, because of their geographical proximity and similar annual background visibility. The 20% best days aerosol concentrations to be used for each month for Wyoming BART evaluations are listed in Table 6.

Table 7 is a list of inputs for CALPOST. These inputs should be used for all BART visibility calculations. Output from CALPOST should be configured to provide a ranked list of the highest delta-deciview values in each Class I area. The 98th percentile delta-deciview value and the number of values exceeding 0.5 can then be determined directly from the CALPOST output.

Table 5. Monthly f(RH) Factors for Class I Areas

Month	Wind Cave NP Badlands NP	Bridger WA Fitzpatrick WA	Mt. Zirkel WA
January	2.65	2.50	2.20
February	2.65	2.30	2.20
March	2.65	2.30	2.00
April	2.55	2.10	2.10
May	2.70	2.10	2.20
June	2.60	1.80	1.80
July	2.30	1.50	1.70
August	2.30	1.50	1.80
September	2.20	1.80	2.00
October	2.25	2.00	1.90
November	2.75	2.50	2.10
December	2.65	2.40	2.10

Table 6. Natural Background Concentrations of Aerosol Components for 20% Best Days for BART Analyses ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

Aerosol Component	Wind Cave NP Badlands NP	Fitzpatrick WA Bridger WA	Mt. Zirkel WA
Ammonium Sulfate	.047	.045	.046
Ammonium Nitrate	.040	.038	.038
Organic Carbon	.186	.178	.179
Elemental Carbon	.008	.008	.008
Soil	.198	.189	.190
Coarse Mass	1.191	1.136	1.141

Table 7. CALPOST Control File Inputs

Variable	Description	Value
	Input Group 1	
ASPEC	Species to Process	VISIB
ILAYER	Layer/deposition code	1
A,B	Scaling factors	0,0
LBACK	Add background concentrations?	F
BTZONE	Base time zone	7
LVS04	Species to be included in extinction	T
LVNO3		T
LVOC		F
LVPMC		T
LVPMF		T
LVEC		F
LVBK	Include background?	T
SPECPMC	Species name for particulates	PM10
SPECPMF		PM25
EEPMC	Extinction efficiencies	0.6
EEPMF		1.0
EEPMCBK		0.6
EESO4		3.0
EENO3		3.0
EEOC		4.0
EESOIL		1.0
EEEC		10.0
MVISBK	Visibility calculation method	6
RHFAC	Monthly RH adjustment factors	Table 5
BKSO4	Background concentrations	Table 6
BKNO3		Table 6
BKPMC		Table 6
BK OC		Table 6
BKSOIL		Table 6
BKEC		Table 6
BEXTRAY	Extinction due to Rayleigh scattering	10.0

7.0 REPORTING

A report on the BART visibility analysis should be submitted that clearly compares impacts for post-control emissions to those for baseline emissions. Data for baseline and BART scenarios should include both the 98th percentile values and the number of days with delta-deciview values exceeding 0.5. Results should be given for each model year.

Table 8 is an example of a recommended format for presentation of model input and model results. The example is for baseline conditions; similar tables should be provided for each control scenario (SO₂, NO_x, and PM10) and for the combination of all BART controls. Your report tables need not follow the exact format shown in Table 8; but the same information should be provided in a concise and clear form. If additional scenarios were modeled or you wish to present supplemental information, they should be provided in an appendix or separate from the specified final results.

