

## PUBLIC NOTICE

- 1) The Department of Environmental Quality (Department) is inviting public comment on the submission of an administrative request to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to exclude certain ambient air monitoring data from regulatory review.
- 2) Certain particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) in Libby, MT ambient air monitoring data from 2017 were flagged for exclusion because their values were unduly affected (i.e. increased) due to the smoke from wildfires in 2017. The documentation contains information regarding the monitoring data "flagged" for exclusion. After review, EPA may exclude the flagged data for purposes of air quality planning and regulation.
- 3) The Department will accept public comment regarding the submission for 30 days. The public comment period begins on Thursday, February 21, 2019 and ends on Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
- 4) Interested persons may view the PM<sub>2.5</sub> 2017 Exception Events in Libby, MT Request Package on the Department's website at: <http://deq.mt.gov/public/publiccomment> or may call the Department at 406-444-3490 to have a copy made available for their inspection.
- 5) Interested parties may submit their comments concerning the proposal described above in writing to the Department by:
  - addressing them to Kristen Martin, 1520 E. Sixth Avenue, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, Montana, 59620-0901;
  - faxing them to (406) 444-1499; or
  - sending them via email addressed to "KMartin@mt.gov."

**To be guaranteed consideration, written comments must be postmarked on or before 5:00 p.m., March 23, 2019.**