

PUBLIC NOTICE

- 1) The Department of Environmental Quality 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 PM2.5 and PM10 ambient air monitoring data from 2015 and 2016 were flagged for exclusion because their values were unduly affected (i.e. increased) due to the smoke from wildfires in 2015 and 2016. The "Flagged Data" documents contain information regarding the monitoring data "flagged" for exclusion. The "Historical Graphs" documents compare those "flagged" days to daily historical averages. 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 **March 9, 2017** and ends on **April 8, 2017** at 5:00 p.m.
- 4) Interested persons may view the 2015 and 2016 Exception Events 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) The State of Montana makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in state government proceedings. Persons requiring accommodation need to contact Kristi Ponozzo concerning the nature of the accommodation. Please contact Kristi at P.O. Box 200901, Helena, Montana 59620-0901; phone 406-444-2813; fax 406-444-1499; or email KPonozzo@mt.gov.
- 6) 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., **April 8, 2017**.