

## Air Quality Planning Process

Developing an Air Quality Plan to address fine particulate matter is a multi-step process. The goal is to develop a plan that addresses the problem, reflects the local situation, and has controls that are reasonable and cost effective.

### Planning Steps

- **Characterize the Problem – Technical Tools and Data**
  - Monitoring Studies
  - Assess Emissions
  - Model Impacts
    - need emissions, air monitoring, and meteorological data to run and validate models
- **Evaluate Options to Reduce Air Pollution and Develop a Plan**
  - Programs and controls can be short or long term, voluntary or mandatory
    - Clean Air Act has requirements for emission reductions that are permanent and enforceable
    - Enforceable programs are not the only way to reduce pollution – voluntary measures are also valuable
- **Adopt the Plan into State Regulations and Submit for EPA Approval**
  - The local plan is reviewed by the Borough Assembly
  - The state incorporates the local plan into the State Implementation Plan through regulation
    - state regulatory process provides additional opportunities for public notice, comment, and hearing
  - Once the state regulatory process is complete, DEC submits the plan to EPA for approval
  - EPA takes action on the plan to make it federally enforceable.
    - EPA reviews the plan to insure it is complete and meets all requirements of the Clean Air Act
    - EPA issues a federal register notice of their action, takes public comment, and finalizes their decision
- **Implement the Plan**

