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NEWS RELEASE

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DEQ Appeals EPA's Regional Haze Decision

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah Department of Environmental Quality has initiated the process to appeal the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) July 5th, 2016, decision to disapprove portions of Utah's regional haze State Implementation Plan (SIP) and to impose a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) in Utah. A Petition for Review was filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and an Application for an Administrative Stay was submitted to EPA.

The appeal seeks a review by the court of EPA's interpretation of the Regional Haze planning requirements and in particular the weighing of factors that relate to the cost and visibility benefits of the state's verses EPA's plans.

"We believe that our plan is supported by the applicable regulations and is based on sound science and common sense to improve visibility at our National Parks at a reasonable cost to Utah ratepayers" said Bryce Bird, Air Quality Division Director at the Utah Department of Environmental Quality. EPA approved all but one aspect of the plan and imposed requirements to install additional controls that cost an estimated \$700 million and will result in little visibility improvement. "We are committed to clean air and believe we can improve visibility with common sense solutions that don't unduly burden ratepayers" said Bird.

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About DEQ

Established in 1991, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) mission is to safeguard public health and quality of life by protecting and enhancing the environment. DEQ implements state and federal environmental laws and works with individuals, community groups and businesses to protect the quality of Utah's air, land and water. For more information, visit www.deq.utah.gov, follow DEQ on Facebook ([utahdeq](https://www.facebook.com/utahdeq)) and Twitter ([UtahDEQ](https://twitter.com/UtahDEQ)), or call 1-800-458-0145.