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**From:** POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard  
**Sent:** Wed 9/6/2017 4:05:03 PM  
**Subject:** EPA gets short Harvey-related delay on Texas haze deadline

By Alex Guillén

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EPA and environmental groups have reached a deal to give the agency an extra three weeks in the wake of Hurricane Harvey to take action on Texas haze.

A federal judge last week rejected EPA's request for a longer-term delay of the deadline, saying EPA was supposed to have acted in 2007 and that further delay was untenable.

But in a filing today, EPA and environmental groups that sued to force the action said they have reached a deal to push the deadline from Sept. 9 to Sept. 30. The consent agreement allows for a delay of up to 60 days if both EPA and the environmental groups agree.

Key EPA staff who would work on the Texas haze issue "are involved in dealing with environmental issues of immediate, near-term concern that have arisen as a consequence of Hurricane Harvey," the filing said.

"EPA reserves the right to seek further extensions," the filing added.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** The deadline is expected to require EPA to issue a federal plan to curb emissions from coal plants and other sources that contribute to haze. Texas has not filed a state implementation plan after years of dispute with the Obama administration over stringency.

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