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From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
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Subject: Democratic AGs sue EPA over missed ozone deadline

By Alex Guillén

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Fifteen Democratic attorneys general today sued EPA for missing a key deadline to implement the 2015 ozone standard.

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt faced an Oct. 1 deadline to declare which parts of the country failed to meet the 2015 standard. Pruitt has issued designations for 85 percent of the nation's counties that either meet the standard or lack the data to make a decision. But he has not said which areas are in nonattainment, a designation that would require those states to write and implement a plan to clean up the air.

A number of the states involved face ozone pollution problems, including car-heavy California and New York as well as states in New England, which are often referred to as the "nation's tailpipe" since pollution from other states blows in their direction.

The AGs who joined the lawsuit include those from California, Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington and the District of Columbia.

WHAT'S NEXT: The AGs' lawsuit comes one day after environmental and public health groups sued over the same issue. Both are in the U.S. District Court for Northern California.

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