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April 2, 2015

Ozone Advance c/o Laura Bunte U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, C304-01 Research Triangle Park, NC 27711

Dear Ms. Bunte:

The Alexandria/Pineville Metropolitan Planning Organization, staffed by the Rapides Area Planning Commission, would like to participate in the Ozone Advance Program with respect to the Alexandria, Louisiana Urbanized Area. We wish to join this partnership with EPA to preserve or improve the air quality in the urbanized area, and we meet the program eligibility criteria, i.e.:

- (1) The Alexandria Urbanized Area is not currently a nonattainment area for either the 1997 8-hour or the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS),
- (2) The Alexandria Urbanized Area consists of the corporate limits of Alexandria, Pineville, and Ball; as well as unincorporated pockets of Rapides and Grant parishes (see attached map).
- (3) Currently, there is no air monitor in or near the Alexandria Urbanized Area.
- (4) Existing emissions inventory reporting requirements have been met (per LAC 33: III Chapter 9).

We understand that our efforts under Ozone Advance may benefit the urbanized and surrounding areas by potentially:

- Reducing air pollution in terms of ozone as well as other air pollutants,
- Ensuring continued healthy ozone levels,
- · Maintaining the ozone NAAQS,
- Helping avoid violations of the ozone NAAQS that could lead to a future nonattainment designation,
- · Increasing public awareness about ground-level ozone as an air pollutant, and
- Targeting limited resources toward actions to address ozone problems quickly.

Our goal is to implement measures and programs to reduce ozone in the Alexandria Urbanized Area in the near term. We agree that it is in our best interest to work together and in coordination with stakeholders and the public to proactively pursue this goal.

Our designated staff member, Matt Johns, can be reached at (318) 487-5401 x27 and by e-mail matt@rapc.info

Sincerely,

Mayor Clarence Fields, Chairman Alexandria/Pineville MPO

cc: Carrie Paige, EPA Region 6 Vivian Aucoin, LADEQ

Encl. (Map)

Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development compiled this information using data fro.

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