



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

MAR 14 2008

John Lyons, Director
Division for Air Quality
Kentucky Environmental and
Public Protection Cabinet
803 Schenkel Lane
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Mr. Lyons:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed Kentucky's State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the attainment demonstration related to Northern Kentucky (as part of the tri-state Cincinnati-Hamilton 8-hour ozone nonattainment area) to determine the adequacy of the motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEBs), pursuant to section 93.118(e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 C.F.R. Part 93, Subpart A). The package was submitted for parallel processing on June 14, 2007, and as a final submittal in December 7, 2007. The Transportation Conformity Rule identifies limited technical and administrative criteria that must be used in determining adequacy of submitted SIP MVEBs for transportation conformity purposes. We have determined that Kentucky's 8-hour ozone attainment demonstration for Northern Kentucky contains adequate MVEBs.

Kentucky's 8-hour ozone attainment demonstration for Northern Kentucky has MVEBs for both volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) for 2008. Specifically, the MVEBs are for these precursors as they relate to the 8-hour ozone standard, and are 9.91 tons per day (tpd) and 21.36 tpd for VOC and NOx, respectively. The MVEBs in Kentucky's submittal only cover the Kentucky area. Through interagency consultation, the transportation and air quality partners for this area decided to have separate MVEBs for Kentucky and combined MVEBs for the Ohio and Indiana portions for this area. This letter only relates to the MVEBs in the Kentucky submittal. In a separate letter, EPA is making a similar determination for the MVEBs associated with the Ohio and Indiana portions of this area. The Kentucky 8-hour ozone MVEBs for Northern Kentucky meet the standard requirements that any MVEB must meet before it can be used to determine conformity for a transportation improvement program or long range transportation plan. This adequacy finding does not relate to the merits of the SIP submittal nor does it indicate whether the submittal meets the requirements for approval.

EPA opened a comment period on the adequacy of the MVEBs contained in the Kentucky 8-hour ozone attainment demonstration SIP for Northern Kentucky by posting the availability of the SIP on our website on December 18, 2007 (See www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/currrips.htm). The comment period for the

adequacy of the MVEBs closed on January 17, 2008. No comments were received during EPA's adequacy comment period. A separate comment period for adequacy of the MVEBs in the Ohio and Indiana submittals for this area was opened on January 22, 2008, and is further discussed at the aforementioned website.

More information on SIPs and adequacy reviews is available on the EPA website. EPA will publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing this adequacy finding in the very near future. The Federal Register notice will also announce the date that the adequacy finding becomes effective. The 2008 MVEBs will be available for use on the effective date.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or have your staff contact Richard A. Schutt of the EPA Region 4 at (404) 562-9033.

Sincerely,



Beverly H. Banister
Director
Air, Pesticides and Toxics
Management Division

cc: Jay Bortzer, Region 5 EPA
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