

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007-1866

March 17, 2000

John P. Cahill, Commissioner
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road
Albany, New York 12233

Dear Commissioner Cahill:

On November 23, 1999, New York submitted a carbon monoxide maintenance plan for its portion of the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut carbon monoxide nonattainment area. A March 2, 1999 decision by the D.C. Circuit Court requires that the Environmental Protection Agency conduct a public process and make an affirmative decision on the adequacy of transportation conformity budgets before they can be used by metropolitan planning organizations in conformity determinations. This letter is to inform you that we have completed our review and the required public comment period on the adequacy of the transportation conformity budgets. We are finding the 2000, 2007 and 2012 budgets for carbon monoxide for this area to be adequate for transportation conformity purposes. Shortly we will be publishing a notice in the Federal Register announcing this finding. The finding of adequacy becomes effective 15 days after that notice is published and these budgets must be used in all conformity determinations in this area once they become effective.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me at 212-637-5000 or have your staff contact Kathleen Callahan, Director of the Division of Environmental Planning and Protection at 212-637-3725.

Sincerely,

Jeanne M. Fox
Regional Administrator