

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JAN 2 2 2007

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

(AR-18J)

William F. Spires, Manager State Implementation Programs Section Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Division of Air Pollution Control 122 South Front Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Mr. Spires:

Thank you for the June 26, 2006, submittal of the redesignation petition and maintenance plan for the Allen County (Lima), Belmont County (Wheeling), and Stark County (Canton) 8-hour ozone nonattainment areas. Pursuant to Section 93.118(e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Part 93, Subpart A), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the ozone attainment demonstration and maintenance plan submitted on June 26, 2006. The document contains MOBILE6 based 2009 and 2018 Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets (MVEB) for these areas.

The 2009 and 2018 MVEBs for volatile organic compounds (VOC) in tons per day are as follows:

Area	2009	2018	
Allen County	5.08	2.89	
Belmont County	2.60	1.52	
Stark County	10.02	5.37	

The 2009 and 2018 MVEBs for oxides of nitrogen (NOx) in tons per day are as follows:

Area	2009	2018
Allen County	8.28	3.47
Belmont County	4.69	1.91
Stark County	18.03	7.08

EPA has reviewed these MVEBs and has found that they meet our adequacy criteria. We will publish a notice of this

finding in the <u>Federal Register</u>, these MVEBs will become effective for conformity determinations 15 days after publication.

The Transportation Conformity Rule spells out limited technical and administrative criteria that EPA must use to determine the adequacy of submitted MVEBs for transportation conformity purposes. EPA also described the process for determining the adequacy of submitted MVEBs in a May 14, 1999, memorandum entitled "Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999, Conformity Court Decision." EPA followed this guidance in making this adequacy determination. EPA opened the public comment period on the adequacy of the submitted MVEBs by posting them to the EPA Office of Transportation and Air Quality's adequacy review website

(www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/conform/adequacy.htm) on November 20, 2006. The comment period closed on December 20, 2006, and no comments were received.

If you have any questions regarding this finding, please feel free to call me or Anthony Maietta, of my staff, at (312) 353-8777.

Sincerely yours,

John Mooney, Chief

Criteria Pollutant Section