



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**REGION IX**

**75 Hawthorne Street**

**San Francisco, CA 94105-3901**

November 9, 2001

Mr. Allen Biaggi,  
Administrator  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138  
Carson City, NV 89706-0851

Dear Mr. Biaggi:

We have found adequate for transportation conformity purposes the motor vehicle emission budgets in the PM10 State Implementation Plan for Clark County (June 2001). As a result of our adequacy finding, the Clark County Regional Transportation Commission and the Federal Highway Administration can use these budgets in future conformity analyses.

On March 2, 1999, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision on *Environmental Defense Fund v. Environmental Protection Agency*, No. 97-1637, that we must make an affirmative determination that the submitted motor vehicle emission budgets contained in State Implementation Plans (SIPs) are adequate before they are used to determine the conformity of Transportation Improvement Programs or Long Range Transportation Plans. In response to the court decision, we are making any submitted SIP revision containing a control strategy plan available for public comment and responding to these comments before announcing our adequacy determination.

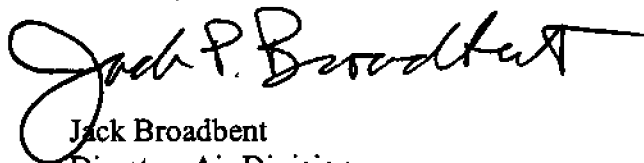
On June 19, 2001, the Clark County Board of County Commissioners adopted a control strategy plan for Las Vegas Valley that was developed to address requirements under the Clean Air Act for PM10 nonattainment areas classified as serious. On July 23, 2001, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) submitted this plan to EPA. The plan identifies regional motor vehicle emissions budgets in tons of PM10 per day for the years 2001, 2003 and 2006. We announced receipt of the plan on the Internet and requested public comment by September 6, 2001. We received one set of comments on the plan during that comment period from the Nevada Environmental Coalition, Inc.

This letter transmits our decision that the emissions budgets in the PM10 plan are adequate for transportation conformity decisions. In reaching this decision, we have reviewed the plan and have preliminarily determined that it will result in attainment of the PM10 standards in the Las Vegas area. We have also considered the public comments on the plan and the County's responses to those comments as well as the comments submitted to us in response to

our request for public comment. We have enclosed a table that summarizes our adequacy determination and a set of our responses to the comments we received. We will soon post this information on the Internet at: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/transp/conform/pastsips.htm>. We will also announce this adequacy determination in the Federal Register. This determination will become effective 15 days after the Federal Register announcement.

If you have any questions regarding this decision, please contact Karina O'Connor at (775) 833-1276 or Ken Bigos at (415) 972-3967.

Sincerely,



Jack Broadbent  
Director, Air Division

Enclosures (Adequacy Review and Response to Comments)

cc: Bob O'Loughlin, Federal Highway Administration  
Randy Bellard, Federal Highway Administration  
Leslie Rogers, Federal Transit Administration  
Tom Fronapfel, Nevada Department of Transportation  
Jacob Snow, Clark County Regional Transportation Commission  
Christine Robinson, Clark County Department of Air Quality Management  
Robert Hall, Nevada Environmental Coalition, Inc.