



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

November 1, 2002

Reply To
Attn Of: OAQ-107

Tom Fitzsimmons, Director
Washington Department of Ecology
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Re: Spokane, Washington Motor Vehicle Emissions Budget Adequacy

Dear Mr. Fitzsimmons:

We have found adequate for transportation conformity purposes the 2001 motor vehicle emission budget (the budget) included in the State Implementation Plan Revision for Carbon Monoxide in the Spokane Serious Nonattainment Area, Spokane Washington (the plan). This finding is based on our review of the budget in accordance with the procedures and criteria for adequacy review in the transportation conformity rule, 40 CFR Part 93.118(e)(4). As a result of this adequacy finding, the Spokane Regional Transportation Council, the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration are required to use this budget in future conformity analyses.

On March 2, 1999, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia issued a decision on EPA's conformity rule revisions in response to a court case brought by the Environmental Defense Fund. This decision stated that EPA must determine the adequacy of the submitted budget. In response to the court's decision, EPA issued guidance on our new adequacy process on May 14, 1999.

On September 28, 2001, the Washington Department of Ecology submitted a Revised Attainment Plan for the Serious Carbon Monoxide Nonattainment Area for Spokane (the Plan). The 2001 motor vehicle emission budget is 268,871 pounds of carbon monoxide per weekday winter day. This budget applies now and in future years unless changed via a SIP revision that EPA subsequently approves. This was the only budget included in the Plan submitted in September 2001. Pursuant to the May 14, 1999, guidance we announced the receipt of the Plan on the EPA adequacy website (<http://www.epa.gov/oms/transp/traqconf.htm>) and requested public comments by January 10, 2002. We received no comments on the Plan. Also, consistent with 40 CFR 93.104(e)(2) conformity of the area's transportation plan and TIP must be redetermined within 18 months of the effective date of the Federal Register notice announcing EPA's finding that the submitted motor vehicle emission budget is adequate. EPA plans to

publish this Federal Register announcement in the near future; the adequacy determination will become effective 15 days after the Federal Register announcement is published.

If you have any questions, please contact Wayne Elson of my staff at (206) 553-1463.

Sincerely,

/s/

Bonnie Thie, Acting Director
Office of Air Quality

cc: Jennifer Bowman, Federal Transit Administration
Mike Boyer, Washington Department of Ecology
Ron Edgar, Spokane County Air Pollution Control Authority
Vern Mickelsen, Federal Highway Administration
Glenn Miles, Spokane Regional Transportation Council
Mia Waters, Washington Department of Transportation