

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 7

11201 Renner Boulevard Lenexa, Kansas 66219

OCT 28 2013

Ms. Kyra Moore, Director Missouri Department of Natural Resources Air Pollution Control Program 1659 East Elm Street Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Ms. Moore:

Pursuant to Section 93.118(e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 C.F.R. Part 93, Subpart A), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the St. Louis Early Progress Plan dated, March 28, 2013 and received August 16, 2013 to determine the adequacy of the mobile source emissions budget.

The conformity rule spells out limited technical and administrative criteria that are used to determine adequacy of submitted State Implementation Plan or SIP budgets for transportation conformity purposes. The mobile source emission budgets include volatile organic compounds or VOC and oxides of nitrogen or NO<sub>x</sub> for the 2008 Ozone Standard year of 2015. We have determined that the mobile source emission budgets from the St. Louis Early Progress Plan are adequate.

This adequacy finding means that the submitted motor vehicle emissions budgets for VOC and NO<sub>x</sub> for the St. Louis area meet the standard requirements that any budget must meet before it can be used to determine conformity for a transportation improvement plan or long-range transportation plan. The EPA opened a comment period on the motor source vehicle emissions budget adequacy by posting the budgets to the EPA web site on September 4, 2013. The web address is http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/adequacy.htm. The comment period closed on October 4, 2013, and no comments were received.

Please note that 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. It is completely separate from the EPA's subsequent rulemaking action on the Early Progress Plan SIP revision and should not be used to prejudge the EPA's approval or disapproval of the SIP revision.

The EPA will 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, please contact Steven Brown of my staff at 913-551-7718 or brown.steven@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Joshua A. Tapp Branch Chief

Air Planning & Development Branch

