

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

PHIL BRYANT GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

TRUDY D. FISHER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 15, 2012

Ozone Advance c/o Laura Bunte U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, C304-01 Research Triangle Park, NC 27711]

Dear Ms. Bunte:

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and the Gulf Regional Planning Commission would like to participate in Ozone Advance with respect to the Mississippi Gulf Coast counties. We wish to join this partnership with EPA to preserve or improve the air quality on the Gulf Coast, and we meet the program eligibility criteria, i.e.:

- (1) The Gulf Coast is not currently a nonattainment area for either the 1997 8-hour or the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS),
- (2) The Gulf Coast consists of Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson Counties, Mississippi,
- (3) The following air monitor(s) reflect the air quality in the Gulf Coast: (Waveland 28-045-0003), Gulfport (28-047-0008) and Pascagoula (28-059-0006), and
- (4) Existing emissions inventory reporting requirements have been met.

We understand that our efforts under Ozone Advance may benefit the Gulf Coast by potentially:

- Reducing air pollution in terms of ozone as well as other air pollutants,
- Ensuring continued healthy ozone levels,
- Maintaining the ozone NAAQS,
- Helping avoid violations of the ozone NAAQS that could lead to a future nonattainment designation,
- Increasing public awareness about ground-level ozone as an air pollutant, and
- Targeting limited resources toward actions to address ozone problems quickly.

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Our goal is to implement measures and programs to reduce ozone on the Gulf Coast in the near term. We agree to that it is in our best interest to work together and in coordination with stakeholders and the public to proactively pursue this goal.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Maya Rao with the Department of Environmental Quality at (601) 961-5242 or mrao@deq.state.ms.us or Elaine Wilkinson with the Gulf Regional Planning Commission at (228) 864-1167 or egw@grpc.com.

Very truly yours,

Trudy D. Fisher, Executive Director Mississippi Department of Environmental

Quality

Elaine G. Wilkinson, Executive Director Gulf Regional Planning Commission

cc: Jane Spann, EPA Region 4