



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Honorable Shari T. Wilson, Secretary
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

JUL 29 2009

Dear Secretary Wilson:

On June 4, 2007, the State of Maryland submitted a proposed SIP Revision entitled "Plan to Improve Air Quality in the Washington, DC-MD-VA Region". This SIP revision submittal contained proposed motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEBs) for 2008, 2009 and 2010. On March 21, 2008, we posted the availability of these budgets for the Washington, D.C. 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conformity website for the purpose of soliciting public comment. The comment period closed on April 21, 2008. We received no comments on the proposed MVEBs.

EPA is not taking any action on the 2009 MVEBs contained in the 2009 attainment demonstration or 2010 contingency budgets at this time. EPA is continuing to review the 2009 attainment demonstration and 2010 contingency budgets and therefore EPA is deferring any action determining the adequacy of the 2009 and 2010 MVEBs for conformity purposes.

We have reviewed the budgets in the proposed SIP revision in accordance with the procedures and criteria for review in the following sections of the Conformity Rule: 40 CFR Part 93, Sections 93.118(e)(4)(i) through (e)(4)(vi) and Section 93.118(e)(5). The Technical Support Document (TSD) entitled, "A Technical Support Document for Adequacy Findings for the Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets in the 2008 Rate of Further Progress Plan for the Metropolitan Washington D.C. Ozone Nonattainment Area (DC-MD-VA)" is an enclosure to this letter. This TSD details our review of the budgets. Based upon that review, EPA finds the budgets in the RFP submittal for the Washington, D.C. 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area adequate for transportation conformity purposes.

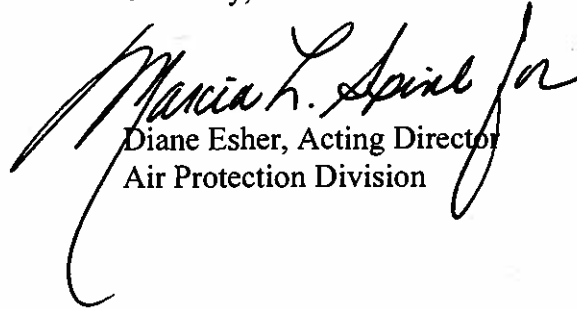
The submitted budgets for 2008 are consistent with the required rate of progress plan for the Washington, D.C. 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment area. Nothing in this adequacy finding should be construed as prejudging the eventual outcome of our on-going review of the attainment demonstration or contingency budgets for the area.

We will be posting today's findings on EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/adequacy.htm> and we will also announce today's findings on the 2008 motor vehicle budgets in the Federal Register. That announcement will be published in approximately two weeks. The findings of adequacy of the budgets of the Washington D.C. 8-

Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area will be effective 15 days after publication of the announcement in the Federal Register.

If you or your staff has any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Carol Febbo, Chief, Energy, Radiation and Indoor Environment Branch at (215) 814-2076 or Mr. Martin Kotsch at 215-814-3335.

Sincerely,



Diane Esher, Acting Director
Air Protection Division

Enclosure

cc: Brian Hug (MDE)
Howard Simons (MDOT)