



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

April 16, 2008

James Goldstene, Executive Officer
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

RE: Adequacy Status of Western Mojave Desert 8-hour Ozone Early Progress Plan
Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets

Dear Mr. Goldstene:

We have found adequate for transportation conformity purposes the motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEBs) in the *Antelope Valley-Western Mojave Desert 8-hour Ozone Early Progress Plan* (February 2008). As a result of our adequacy findings, the Southern California Association of Governments and the U.S. Department of Transportation must use these budgets in future conformity analyses once the finding becomes effective.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) submitted the draft *Antelope Valley-Western Mojave Desert 8-hour Ozone Early Progress Plan* to EPA for parallel processing on February 6, 2008 as a revision to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP). The plan identifies regional MVEBs for the nonattainment area for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) for the year 2009. We announced receipt of the plan on EPA's website on February 14, 2008, and requested public comment by March 17, 2008. We did not receive any comments on the budgets and plan during that comment period. CARB formally adopted the plan without amendment on February 28, 2008, and submitted the final version to EPA on March 24, 2008.

This letter transmits our decision that the motor vehicle emissions budgets contained in the *Antelope Valley-Western Mojave Desert 8-hour Ozone Early Progress Plan* are adequate for transportation conformity decisions. The plan identifies regional motor vehicle emission budgets in the table below:

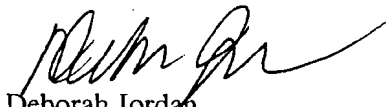
| Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Budget Year | VOC ¹ (tons per day) | NOx (tons per day) |
| 2009 | 22 | 77 |

¹ The plan uses a comparable State term, reactive organic gases (ROG).

We have detailed our adequacy findings in the enclosure. Consistent with the 2004 final amendments to the Transportation Conformity Rule (69 FR 4004) these 8-hour motor vehicle emissions budgets replace the existing 1-hour ozone motor vehicle emission budgets from the 2004 Attainment Plan. A copy of this letter and its enclosures will soon be posted on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/adequacy.htm>. We will also announce the adequacy findings in the Federal Register. The findings will become effective 15 days after the Federal Register announcement.

If you have any questions regarding these adequacy findings, please contact Matt Haber at (415) 947-4146 or Adrienne Priselac at (415) 972-3285.

Sincerely,



Deborah Jordan
Director, Air Division

Enclosure

cc: Hasan Ikhata, SCAG
Jonathan Nadler, SCAG
Jean Mazur, FHWA