

Proposed Revision to the State Implementation Plan for the Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets in the Lancaster Eight-Hour Ozone Maintenance Area; Public Hearing

The Department is revising the Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for the Lancaster Eight-Hour Ozone Maintenance Area. The revised budgets, once approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), will expedite future transportation planning for the Lancaster Area. The U.S. EPA developed a new computer model, the Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulator (MOVES) that estimates emissions from highway vehicles more accurately. The approved maintenance plan for the Lancaster Area used the former EPA-approved model, Mobile6, for estimating highway vehicles emissions. Emissions of oxides of nitrogen and, in some cases, volatile organic compounds are estimated to be at higher levels by the new model than what was approved in the original maintenance plan. The Transportation Conformity regulation requires that emissions from updated local transportation improvement plans do not exceed the motor vehicle emissions budget in the area's approved, applicable SIP. By using similar modeling in transportation planning and the SIP, a more realistic comparison between the two will result with less chance of transportation projects being delayed.

This proposal is available on the Department's website at www.depweb.state.pa.us (choose "Air Plans") or through the contact persons listed.

The Department is seeking public comment on this SIP revision and changes made to the motor vehicle emissions budget in the Lancaster Eight-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan. The Department will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the proposal on Thursday, October 18, 2012, at 10 a.m. in Room Susquehanna A at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Southcentral Regional Office, 909 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

Persons wishing to present testimony at the hearing should contact Alex Haas, P.O. Box 8468, Harrisburg, PA 17105, (717) 787-9495 or alehaas@pa.gov to reserve a time. If, by October 1, 2012, no person has expressed interest intent to testify at the hearing, the hearing will be cancelled. Witnesses should keep testimony to ten minutes and should provide two written copies of their statement at the hearing.

Persons with a disability who wish to attend the hearing and require an auxiliary aid, service or other accommodation to participate in the proceeding should contact Alex Haas at (717) 787-9495 or alehaas@pa.gov. TDD users may contact the AT&T Relay Service at (800) 654-5984 to discuss how the Department can best accommodate their needs.

The Department must receive comments no later than October 18, 2012. Written comments should be sent to the attention of Arleen Shulman, Chief, Division of Air Resource Management, Bureau of Air Quality, P.O. Box 8468, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8468, or ashulman@state.pa.us. Use "Lancaster MVEB Revisions" as the mail addressee or in the subject line.

MICHAEL L. KRANCER,
Secretary

