



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

SECRETARY

July 22, 2013

Mr. Shawn Garvin
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street (Mail Code: 3RA00)
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Mr. Garvin:

Enclosed for your approval is a revision to the Pennsylvania State Implementation Plan (SIP) to update the Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets (MVEBs) in the "Maintenance Plan and Base Year Inventory for the Reading Eight-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area" (Maintenance Plan). The Maintenance Plan was developed according to Section 175A(b) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C.A. §7505a(b)). This Maintenance Plan revision was also developed in accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) April 2012 guidance document titled, "Policy Guidance on the Use of MOVES2010 and Subsequent Minor Revisions for State Implementation Plan Development, Transportation Conformity, and Other Purposes." The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requests that the EPA use the direct final rulemaking process to expedite the approval of this non-controversial SIP revision.

The Commonwealth has completed its public participation process for this SIP revision. DEP scheduled a public hearing to occur on the final day of the 30-day public comment period, which ended April 30, 2013, but no persons expressed interest in presenting testimony or attending. Therefore, DEP cancelled the hearing. DEP received no comments on the proposed SIP revision. After the public comment period closed, DEP made minor corrections to some tables in the proposed Maintenance Plan revision. These changes did not affect the final conclusion of the revision.

The following documents are enclosed for your approval:

1. The Maintenance Plan revision, which includes an MVEB for the purposes of transportation conformity;
2. Certification of public participation activities;
3. A technical support document for the Maintenance Plan revision; and
4. Appendix C, "Technical Support Document, Mobile Source Highway Emissions Inventory," which replaces the Appendix C of the same title in the approved Maintenance Plan.

A paper copy and a disk containing a searchable PDF copy of the revised Maintenance Plan are enclosed. I certify that the electronic file is an exact duplicate of the hard copy.

On August 24, 2007, the EPA approved the Commonwealth's request for redesignation as attainment for the Reading Area and all of the components of the Maintenance Plan, which included MVEBs for 2009 and 2018 (72 FR 48559).

As you know, the EPA updated the model that estimates highway vehicle emissions. The new model, the Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulator (MOVES), better estimates emissions from highway vehicles, but MOVES estimates much higher emissions of oxides of nitrogen, than the Mobile6.2 model used to derive the MVEBs in the approved Reading Maintenance Plan. The Berks County Planning Commission (BCPC), which is responsible for transportation planning in Berks County, uses those approved MVEBs to satisfy transportation conformity requirements. The BCPC is required to use the most up-to-date version of MOVES for all new transportation planning that begins after March 2, 2013. Approval of the updated MVEBs in the Commonwealth's SIP will allow BCPC to compare similarly generated emissions used in its plans and the MVEBs, which will allow transportation projects to go forward in a timely manner.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joyce E. Epps, Director of the Bureau of Air Quality, by email at jeepps@pa.gov or by telephone at 717.787.9702.

Sincerely,



E. Christopher Abruzzo
Acting Secretary

Enclosures