UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

November 1, 2001

Mr. Carmine DiBattista, Chief
Bureau of Air Management
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street, 5th Floor
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127

Dear Mr. DiBattista,

The purpose of this letter is to provide an adequacy determination for your ozone mobile source emission budgets submitted to EPA. On March 2, 1999, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued a decision on EPA's third set of conformity revisions in response to a case brought by the Environmental Defense Fund. As a result of the decision, an area cannot make a conformity determination using a submitted motor vehicle emission budget until EPA makes a positive determination that the submitted budgets are adequate. In response to the court's decision, EPA issued guidance on our adequacy process on May 14, 1999.

The proposed post-1999 ROP plan submitted by Connecticut on June 4, 2001 contained 2002, 2005 and 2007 budgets for nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) for the Connecticut portion of the New York - New Jersey - Connecticut severe ozone area. On August 10, 2001, EPA published a notice in the Federal Register proposing approval of the attainment demonstration and post-1999 rate-of-progress plan for the severe ozone nonattainment area. EPA also proposed to find the 2002 and 2005 post-1999 rate-of-progress budgets for VOC and NOx adequate for conformity purposes and posted these budgets for comment on EPA's TRAQ website. Comments on the adequacy of these budgets were due by September 10, 2001, and we received no comments. As you know, EPA previously found the 2007 budgets adequate, and the 2007 budgets became effective July 3, 2000.

On October 15, 2001, EPA received the final revision to the State Implementation Plan that included the post-1999 rate-of-progress plan containing these mobile source emission budgets. These budgets are summarized below:

Conformity Budgets			
(tpsd)	**2002**	**2005**	**2007**
VOC	15.2	11.4	9.7
NOx	38.4	29.0	23.7

We have reviewed these mobile source emissions budgets in accordance with the procedures and criteria for adequacy review in the transportation conformity rule [(40 CFR 93.118(e)(4)], and we have determined that these mobile source emission budgets are adequate and must be used in future conformity determinations. These conformity budgets will become effective for conformity determinations 15 days after EPA publishes an announcement of this adequacy determination in the Federal Register, which will be published in conjunction with EPA's final action on the attainment demonstration and post-1999 rate-of-progress plan.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Butensky at (617) 918-1665.

Sincerely,

Michael Kenyon

Michael Kenyon, Chief
Air Programs Branch

cc: Meg Patulski, EPA-OTAQ