



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

MAR 04 2010

Mr. David Brymer
Director, Air Quality Division
Chief Engineer's Office
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Post Office Box 13087, MC-206
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Dear Mr. Brymer:

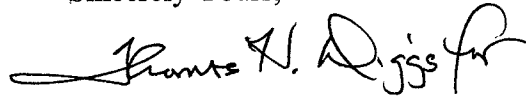
The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will soon announce in the *Federal Register* our determination that the motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEB) contained in the latest revisions to the Beaumont/Port Arthur 8-hour Ozone State Implementation Plan (SIP) are adequate for transportation conformity purposes. These revisions incorporate the latest available demographic projections into the MVEB, and establish the modeled budget year. The budget will become effective 15 days after the *Federal Register* publication date.

In a letter dated December 16, 2008, Chairman Buddy Garcia submitted to EPA the Beaumont/Port Arthur 8-hour Ozone Maintenance Plan SIP, which contains a new MVEB for 2021. The MVEB proposed for 2021 is: 7.24 tons per day (tpd) for nitrogen oxides (NO_x); and 4.77 tpd for volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

EPA is required to make a determination that the MVEB is consistent with the SIP control strategy, and we have followed the procedure for doing so per 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4). The availability of these SIP revisions was posted on EPA's website for the purpose of soliciting public comments on the MVEB. The revised MVEB was made available for public review on April 15, 2009; we received no comment by the close of the comment period on May 15, 2009. We have determined the budget submitted in these SIP revisions is adequate for transportation conformity purposes and, upon the effective date of the subsequent *Federal Register* Notice of Adequacy, it must be used in future transportation conformity determinations. We will be posting our determination on EPA's website in addition to announcing it in the *Federal Register*.

If you have any questions concerning this action, please contact me at (214) 665-7200 or Guy Donaldson of my staff at (214) 665-7242.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl E. Edlund". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "E".

Carl E. Edlund, P.E.
Director
Multimedia Planning and
Permitting Division

cc: Mr. Bob Dickinson
Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission

Ms. Peggy Thurin
Texas Department of Transportation

Mr. Jose Campos
Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division