



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5
AIR AND RADIATION DIVISION
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

AUG 23 2016

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Bob Hodanbosi, Director
Department of Air Pollution Control
Lazarus Government Center
50 West Town Street, Suite 700
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Mr. Hodanbosi:

EPA has received a submission containing a redesignation request and maintenance plan for the Columbus, OH area for the 2008 8-hour ozone standard, submitted by the State of Ohio on June 16, 2016. The plan includes years 2020 and 2030 Mobile Vehicle Emissions Budgets (MVEBs) for volatile organic compounds (VOC) and oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) for the Columbus area. Pursuant to Section 93.118(e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 C.F.R. Part 93, Subpart A), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the MVEBs for adequacy.

The conformity rule spells out limited technical and administrative criteria that are used to determine adequacy of submitted MVEBs for transportation conformity purposes. We have determined that the MVEBs for the Columbus area are adequate. A comment period on the MVEBs adequacy was held, via a posting to EPA's web site, on July 22, 2016. The comment period closed on August 22, 2016, and no comments were received. This adequacy finding means that the submitted MVEBs for VOC and NO_x for the Columbus area can be used to determine conformity for a transportation improvement program or long-range transportation plan.

Please note that this adequacy finding does not relate to the merits of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) submittal, nor does it indicate whether the submittal meets the requirements for approval. It is completely separate from the EPA's subsequent rulemaking action on the Columbus area's redesignation and maintenance plan submittal and should not be used to prejudge the EPA's approval or disapproval of the SIP submittal.

The EPA will announce the adequacy determination in the Federal Register. The adequacy determination will become effective 15 days after publication. If you have any questions, please contact Anthony Maietta, of my staff, at 312-353-8777.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Mooney".

John Mooney
Chief
Air Programs Branch

Standard bccs: official file copy w/attachment(s)

Originator=s file copy w/attachment(s)

Originating organization reading file W/attachment(s)

Other bccs:

ARD:APB:css: 7/13/16

Diskette/File: Maietta/Columbus Adequacy conformity MVEB.doc