UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



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

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

MAR 0 8 2018

Keith Baugues, Assistant Commissioner Office of Air Quality Indiana Department of Environmental Management 100 North Senate Avenue Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Keil Dear Mr. Baugues:

On February 28, 2017, the State of Indiana submitted a rate of progress demonstration for the Indiana portion of the 2008 8-hour ozone Chicago-Naperville, IL-IN-WI nonattainment area, and provided further clarification to the demonstration on January 9, 2018. This plan included Mobile Vehicle Emissions Budgets (MVEBs) for volatile organic compounds (VOC) and oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) for the year 2017. 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 Indiana portion of the Chicago-Naperville, IL-IN-WI nonattainment area are adequate. A comment period on the MVEBs adequacy was held, via a posting to EPA's web site, from February 2, 2018 through March 5, 2018. No comments were received. This adequacy finding means that the submitted MVEBs for VOC and NO_x for the Indiana portion of the 2008 8-hour ozone Chicago-Naperville, IL-IN-WI nonattainment 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 attainment demonstration submittal, and should not be used to prejudge the EPA's approval or disapproval of that SIP revision.

The EPA will announce the adequacy determination in the <u>Federal Register</u>. 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,

John Mooney

Chief Air Programs Branch