



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8**

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Ref: 8ARD-IO

Michael Ogletree, Director  
Air Pollution Control Division  
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
4300 Cherry Creek South Drive  
Denver, Colorado 80246

Re: Adequacy Status of the Denver-Boulder-Greeley-Ft. Collins-Loveland, CO 2008 8-Hour Ozone Reasonable Further Progress Plan Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets

Dear Mr. Ogletree:

The EPA has reviewed the “Serious State Implementation Plan for the Denver Metro and North Front Range Ozone Nonattainment Area” for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) (the “plan” or “SIP”). The plan was adopted by the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission on December 18, 2020, and submitted to EPA by the Governor’s designee, with a letter dated March 22, 2021.

Based on our review, the EPA has found the 2020 motor vehicle emissions budgets (the “budgets”) included with the plan submission adequate for transportation conformity purposes. Our finding regards the 2020 reasonable further progress (RFP) milestone year oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) budgets for the Northern Subarea, Southern Subarea and complete Denver Metro/North Front Range nonattainment area as identified and quantified in Chapter 11 of the plan document. This finding is based on the consistency of the budgets to the demonstration of RFP with respect to the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS and the plan’s ability to meet the applicable criteria for budget adequacy found in 40 CFR part 93, subpart A (the Transportation Conformity Rule). The EPA will announce this adequacy finding in a subsequent notice in the Federal Register. The adequacy finding will take effect upon the effective date published in that Federal Register notice.

During our adequacy review, we notified the public of our receipt of the March 22, 2021 plan revision by posting an announcement of its availability on EPA’s Office of Transportation and Air Quality website:

<https://www.epa.gov/state-and-local-transportation/adequacy-review-state-implementation-plan-sip-submissions-conformity>

In that announcement, the EPA requested public comments on the SIP submission and the adequacy of the budgets by April 3, 2023. We did not receive any comments on the web posting. The budgets we have found adequate are as follows:

<b>Adequate NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC Subarea and Total Nonattainment Area Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for the Denver-Boulder-Greeley-Ft. Collins-Loveland, CO 2008 8-Hour Ozone Area</b>		
	2020 NO <sub>x</sub> (tpd)	2020 VOC (tpd)
Northern Subarea	9.7	8.2
Southern Subarea	45	41.2
Total Nonattainment Area	54.7	49.4

As described in Chapter 11 (p. 11-5) of the submitted plan document, the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) and the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFRMPO) may continue using the pertinent subarea budget for separately determining conformity of each organization's transportation plans, programs and projects. The MPOs may revert to using the total nonattainment area budget but must use the process outlined in the plan document.

This adequacy finding affects all future transportation conformity determinations as prepared by DRCOG, the NFRMPO, the Colorado Department of Transportation, and the U.S. Department of Transportation following the effective date of the finding and until future EPA action finds new budgets adequate or issues notice finding these budgets inadequate.

Please note that this adequacy finding is separate from the EPA's ongoing rulemaking actions regarding the Denver Metro/North Front Range Serious area ozone SIP revision and should not be used to prejudice the EPA's approval or disapproval of the SIP revision or any of its elements.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact me at (303) 312-7006. Your staff may direct questions to Gregory Lohrke, of my staff, at (303) 312-6396 or [lohrke.gregory@epa.gov](mailto:lohrke.gregory@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

 Recoverable Signature

 Adrienne Sandoval

Signed by: Environmental Protection Agency

Adrienne Sandoval

Director

Air and Radiation Division

Enclosure

cc: Bill Haas, FHWA  
David Beckhouse, FTA  
Douglas Rex, Executive Director, DRCOG  
Robert Spotts, DRCOG  
Suzette Mallette, Executive Director, NFRMPO  
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