

# ENVIRONMENTAL

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E-mail: wilcox@enviroadvocates.com

July 18, 2023

### BY CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Michael S. Regan, Administrator United States Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (Mail Code 1101A) Washington, D.C. 20460

Re: Notice of Intent to Sue Pursuant to Section 304(b)(2) of the Clean Air Act for Failure of the Administrator to Act on Clean Air Act State Implementation Plan Submissions from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Texas.

#### Dear Administrator Regan:

I am writing on behalf of Our Children's Earth Foundation ("OCE") to notify you of ongoing violations of the federal Clean Air Act by you, as Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), for your failure to timely act, as required by Section 110(k)(2) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7410(k)(2), on numerous state implementation plan ("SIP") revisions submitted by the States of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Texas. OCE intends to file a lawsuit seeking to address your failure to perform these nondiscretionary duties set forth in 42 U.S.C. § 7410(k)(2) 60 days from the date of this letter under Section 304 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7604. The SIP submissions that you have failed to timely address include those listed in the attached spreadsheet.

#### A. Failure To Perform Nondiscretionary Duties

Under the Clean Air Act, states are required to submit SIP submissions to the EPA to implement, maintain, and enforce National Ambient Air Quality Standards ("NAAQS"). See 42 U.S.C. § 7410(a). The Clean Air Act further requires the Administrator to fully or partially approve or

disapprove a SIP submission within twelve (12) months after such submission has been deemed complete, either by the Administrator or as a matter of law. See 42 U.S.C. § 7410(k)(2). If the EPA does not make a completeness finding, SIP submissions are deemed complete by operation of law six (6) months after submission. See 42 U.S.C. § 7410(k)(1)(B). Therefore, at most, EPA had eighteen (18) months within which to take final action to approve, disapprove, or partially approve or disapprove the aforementioned SIP submissions from the States of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Texas. As of the date of this letter, EPA has failed to fully or partially approve or disapprove the aforementioned SIP submissions listed in the attachment. Because EPA has failed to take action on the above SIP submissions by the statutory deadline, EPA is now in violation of Clean Air Act Section 110(k)(2), 42 U.S.C. § 7410(k)(2).

#### B. Notice of Intent to Sue

After the expiration of sixty (60) days from the date of this notice of intent to sue, OCE intends to file suit against you in federal court for your failure to act in accordance with, or fulfill, the duties described in Section A of this letter.

#### C. Identity of Persons Giving Notice and Their Counsel

As required by 40 C.F.R. § 54.3, the name and address of OCE, the noticing party, is as follows:

Our Children's Earth Foundation 1625 Trancas St. #2218 Napa, CA 94558-9998 Tel: (510) 910-4535

E-mail: annie@ocefoundation.org

OCE is a non-profit public benefit corporation with members throughout the United States, including many members in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina, Texas, and surrounding states affected by air pollution originating in those states, dedicated to protecting the public, especially children, from the health impacts of pollution and other environmental hazards and to improving environmental quality for the public benefit. Part of OCE's mission is to participate in environmental decisionmaking, enforce federal and state environmental laws (including via citizen suits), to reduce pollution, and to educate the public concerning environmental laws and their enforcement.

OCE has retained the following legal counsel to represent it in this matter:

Stuart Wilcox, Esq. Environmental Advocates 5135 Anza Street San Francisco, CA 94121 Tel: (720) 331-0385

Fax: (415) 358-5695

E-mail: wilcox@enviroadvocates.com

## D. Offer to Negotiate

During the sixty (60) day notice period, OCE is willing to discuss effective measures to correct your failure to comply with your nondiscretionary duties and to discuss any information bearing upon this notice. If you wish to pursue such discussions prior to litigation, we request that you expeditiously initiate them so that these discussions may be completed before the end of the sixty (60) day notice period. OCE does not intend to delay the filing of a complaint in federal court if the discussions fail to resolve these matters within the sixty (60) day notice period, and it intends to seek all appropriate relief, including injunctive relief and all costs of litigation, including, but not limited to, attorneys' fees, expert witness fees, and other costs.

We believe this notice provides information sufficient for you to determine the mandatory duty we allege you have failed to perform. If, however, you have any questions, please feel free to contact us for clarification.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

/s/ Stuart Wilcox
Stuart Wilcox
Environmental Advocates
Counsel for Our Children's Earth Foundation

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# Attachment 1 to Clean Air Act Citizen Suit Notice Letter

Alabama Overdue SIP Submissions		
SPeCS Review Page	State Submittal Date	SPeCS Review Page ID
Birmingham 2006 24-hour PM2.5 Area Limited Maintenance Plan	2/17/2021	235034

Florida Overdue SIP Submissions		
SPeCS Review Page	State Submittal Date	SPeCS Review Page ID
Startup, Shutdown and Malfunction (SSM) SIP Call and Excess Emissions	11/22/2016	6428
Florida Regional Haze Plan for the Second Implementation Period	10/8/2021	245298
PM2.5 Part H SIP Revisions for Moderate SIPs	1/19/2017	9330

Georgia Overdue SIP Submissions		
SPeCS Review Page	State	SPeCS
	Submittal	Review
	Date	Page ID
Startup Shutdown and Malfunction (SSM) SIP Call	11/17/2016	6458
Response		
GA Gasoline Dispensing Facilities	11/4/2021	246675

Louisiana Overdue SIP Submission		
SPeCS Review Page	State Submittal Date	SPeCS Review Page ID
LA 2010 SO2 NAAQS transport prongs 1 and 2	6/7/2013	14431

South Carolina Overdue SIP Submissions		
SPeCS Review Page	State	SPeCS
	Submittal	Review
	Date	Page ID

2015 General Assembly - Minor NSR and NOx Controls	7/25/2016	5580
2014 End of Year Revisions	1/20/2016	7106
2011 End of Year Revisions	6/17/2013	7092
Misc. Revisions: Definitions & Gen. Requirements, Ambient Air Quality Stds., etc. Minor Source SIP	7/18/2011	5578
Revisions only		
Minor Source Permit Requirements/NOx Controls	10/1/2007	5574

Texas Overdue SIP Submission		lana o a a	
SPeCS Review Page	State Submittal	SPeCS Review	
	Date	Page ID	
Dallas-Fort Worth 2008 O3 Serious Area RFP and	5/13/2020	211973	
Contingency Measures  Dallas-Fort Worth 2008 Ozone Serious Area Attainment	5/13/2020	211953	
	3/13/2020	211933	
Demonstration	5/13/2020	238356	
Houston 2008 O3 Serious Area Contingency Measures	5/13/2020	211934	
Houston 2008 Ozone Serious Area Attainment	3/13/2020	211934	
Demonstration	5/12/2020	212211	
TX Confirmation for Dallas-Fort Worth 2008 O3 Serious	5/13/2020	213311	
Area Requirements (I/M, NNSR)	5/12/2020	212202	
TX Confirmation for Houston 2008 O3 Serious Area	5/13/2020	213303	
Requirements (I/M, NNSR)	5/12/2020	21.4061	
TX Dallas-Fort Worth 2008 O3 Serious Area RACT	5/13/2020	214061	
Analysis (in Attainment Demonstration)	- / · · · / · · · · · · · · ·	214050	
TX Houston 2008 O3 Serious Area RACT Analysis (in	5/13/2020	214058	
Attainment Demonstration)		211050	
Dallas-Fort Worth 2008 Ozone Serious Area RACT NOx	5/12/2020	211859	
Rules			
Dallas-Fort Worth 2008 Ozone Serious Area RACT VOC	5/12/2020	211883	
rules		212105	
TX 30 TAC 101.118a2 and 101.118b from the Houston 1-	11/30/2018	212195	
hour ozone section 185 fee alternative program	11/01/0016		
TX 30 TAC 101.222 SSM revisions (RPN 2016-040-101-	11/21/2016	7154	
CE) submitted 11/18/2016	0/0//00//	7400	
TX 5-Year Regional Haze Progress Report SIP Revision,	3/24/2014	7402	
Texas Project 2013-013-SIP-NR, submitted March 20,			
2014	5 (0 (0 0 1 0	14674	
TX Transport prongs 1 and 2 portion of the 2010 SO2	5/9/2013	14654	
Infrastructure & Transport SIP (Sub 5/6/13, Project No.			
2012-022-SIP-NR)	1	Ļ	

TX - Quadrennial Review Update to Public Notice and	1/21/2022	249293
Procedural Rules, Submitted 01/21/2022		
TX - Revisions to Public Notice Requirements in Chapters	1/21/2022	249273
39 and 55, Submitted 1/21/2022		
Regional Haze Requirements 'TX_2021 Regional Haze	7/20/2021	241412
SIP 07202021'		
TX DFW Oil and Gas CTG SIP	7/20/2021	241672
TX Houston Oil and Gas CTG SIP	7/20/2021	241391
Revisions to Texas Chapter 116 - Project Emissions	7/9/2021	241156
Accounting		
Revisions to Texas Chapter 116 to remove obsolete	7/9/2021	241159
provisions, submitted 07/09/2021		
Other - SIP 'TX_Agreed Orders and FCAA Section 110(1)	8/20/2020	219067
SIP Revision 08202020'		

USPS CERTIFIED MAIL



9214 8901 4298 0486 3804 44

Michael S. Regan, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. (Mail Code 1101A)
Washington, DC 20460

# See Important Information Enclosed