Air Resources Board

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
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Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

November 16, 2007

Mr. Wayne Nastri
Regional Administrator
Region 9
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Mr. Nastri:

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) is pleased to submit to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for approval as a revision to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP) the San Joaquin Valley's local element of the SIP for 8-hour ozone. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District) adopted the plan on April 30, 2007. On June 14, 2007, ARB approved the plan as a revision to the California SIP.

The SIP revision relies on reduction commitments from the 2007 State Strategy for the California SIP (State Strategy), which the Board adopted on September 27, 2007. The State Strategy is being submitted under separate cover as it also applies to other California nonattainment areas.

The SIP revision demonstrates attainment of the federal 8-hour ozone standard in the San Joaquin Valley by 2023. It includes an emission reduction commitment for long-term measures as allowed by Section 182(e)(5) of the Act. ARB concurs with the District's request for reclassification from "serious" to "extreme" for the 8-hour ozone standard.

Enclosures: This package consists of seven copies of the documents listed below.

I) May 8, 2007, letter from Mr. Scott Nester, District Director of Planning, to Ms. Catherine Witherspoon, ARB Executive Officer, transmitting the following materials:

A) ARB SIP Completeness Checklist,

B) The San Joaquin Valley 2007 Ozone Plan (April 2007),

C) Evidence of Public Hearing notice,

D) District Governing Boar d Resolution 07-04-11a adopting the 2007 Ozone Plan,

E) District Governing Board Resolution 07-04-11b enhancing SIP Creditability for Incentive Programs,

F) Public Comments and Responses,

G) Additional Materials:

- Governing Board Report,
- Initial Study for CEQA.

II) ARB's Staff Report on the Analysis of the San Joaquin Valley 2007 Ozone Plan. (May 2007)

III) Public meeting notice and evidence of publication for the Air Resources Board meeting on June 14, 2007 to consider the San Joaquin Valley 2007 Ozone Plan.

IV) ARB Board Resolution 07-20 approving the San Joaquin Valley 2007 Ozone Plan as a revision to the SIP, including revised transportation conformity budgets and a revised Reasonable Further Progress demonstration.

V) Written comments received by ARB on the San Joaquin Valley SIP.

VI) Completeness checklist for the San Joaquin Valley SIP.

The following portions of the San Joaquin Valley's local SIP element address requirements specific to California law or local initiatives not intended for inclusion in the SIP, and are excluded from this SIP submittal. They are:

- District Action Plan for Existing and Future Incentive Funds (2007 Ozone Plan, Chapter 7, pages 7-15 through 7-64).
- Appendix E: Triennial Progress Report for the California 1-hour Ozone Standard (2007 Ozone Plan, Appendix E, pages E-1 through E-20).

This SIP submittal includes revisions to the San Joaquin Valley transportation conformity emissions budgets. ARB requests that U.S. EPA act quickly to find the transportation conformity budgets adequate for use by Valley transportation planning agencies. To ensure that any future updates to these budgets are used expeditiously in the conformity process, we also request that U.S. EPA allow budgets to be replaced upon a finding of adequacy. To accomplish this, we ask U.S. EPA to limit its approval of the budgets submitted today to last only until the effective date of future U.S. EPA adequacy findings for replacement budgets.

We look forward to working with you to secure the approval of this SIP revision, and will continue to work with your staff to resolve technical issues related to U.S. EPA approval. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me, at (916) 445-4383, or Ms. Lynn Terry, Deputy Executive Officer, at (916) 322-2739. For questions of a technical nature, please have your staff contact Mr. Kurt Karperos, Chief, Air Quality and Transportation Planning Branch, at (916) 445-5610.

Sincerely,

James N. Goldstene
Executive Officer

Enclosures

cc: See next page.

cc: (without Enclosures)

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