April 27, 2017

Ms. Alexis Strauss  
Acting Regional Administrator  
Region 9  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Ms. Strauss:

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is submitting to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) the South Coast 2016 Air Quality Management Plan (2016 AQMP) and the commitments from the 2016 State Strategy for the State Implementation Plan (State SIP Strategy) as a revision to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP) to meet the Clean Air Act (CAA) requirements.

The 2016 AQMP submittal addresses CAA attainment requirements for ozone and fine particulate matter (PM2.5) national ambient air quality standards (standards) in the South Coast Air Basin (South Coast) and the Coachella Valley nonattainment areas. The standards included in the 2016 AQMP are:

- South Coast Air Basin 75 ppb 8-hour ozone,
- South Coast Air Basin 12 ug/m³ annual PM2.5, and
- Coachella Valley 75 ppb 8-hour ozone.

The 2016 AQMP also includes additional SIP updates for the following standards for the South Coast:

- 80 ppb 8-hour ozone,
- 120 ppb 1-hour ozone, and
- 35 ug/m³ 24-hour PM2.5.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: http://www.arb.ca.gov.
The State SIP Strategy describes CARB's commitments to achieve emission reductions from mobile sources and consumer products needed for attainment in the South Coast. The State SIP Strategy also includes additional emission reductions from mobile sources in the San Joaquin Valley (SJV) to accelerate progress towards meeting the 75 ppb 8-hour ozone standard. The SJV ozone SIP for the 75 ppb standard was previously submitted to U.S. EPA in a letter dated August 24, 2016.

**South Coast SIP Submittal and State SIP Strategy Submittal**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (District) adopted the 2016 AQMP on March 3, 2017, and CARB approved the 2016 AQMP and the State SIP Strategy on March 23, 2017. California's commitments for the South Coast are outlined in CARB resolutions 17-7 and 17-8 with Addendums.

The CARB submittal for the 2016 AQMP and the commitments from the State SIP Strategy consists of one hard copy and one electronic copy on compact discs of the following items.

1. The District submittal package, including:
   a) March 10, 2017 letter from Mr. Wayne Nastri, District Executive Officer, to Mr. Richard Corey, CARB Executive Officer;
   b) Governing Board Adoption Resolution 17-2 adopting the 2016 AQMP;
   c) Final 2016 AQMP including Appendices I through VI, March 2017;
   d) Evidence of Publication for Notices of Public Hearings; and
   e) Response to Comments on the 2016 AQMP, March 2017;

2. Public notice evidence and transcript for the CARB March 23, 2017 public meeting to consider approval of the 2016 AQMP and State SIP Strategy;

3. CARB Resolution 17-8 with addendum adopting the 2016 AQMP as a revision to the California SIP for the South Coast Air Basin and the Coachella Valley;

4. CARB Staff Report, *ARB Review of the 2016 Air Quality Management Plan for the South Coast Air Basin and Coachella Valley* including appendices B through D;
5. CARB Resolution 17-7 with addendum adopting the State SIP Strategy as a revision to the California SIP;

6. CARB Staff Report, 2016 State Strategy for the State Implementation Plan; and

7. Written comments regarding the 2016 AQMP received by CARB.

The 2016 AQMP includes on-road motor vehicle emission budgets. To ensure that any future updates to these budgets are used expeditiously in the conformity process, we 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.

Without the ability to replace the applicable emissions budgets with submitted budgets found adequate using the budget adequacy process, the benefits of using the updated data may not be realized for a year or more after the SIPs are submitted, due to the SIP approval process. We appreciate U.S. EPA’s willingness to work with us in our efforts to utilize motor vehicle emission budgets based on the most up-to-date, accurate data as soon as possible upon availability.

**Additional Reductions for the San Joaquin Valley Ozone SIP**

The SJV ozone SIP for the 75 ppb standard was previously submitted to U.S. EPA in a letter dated August 24, 2016. That submittal included an attainment demonstration for the San Joaquin Valley by the 2031 federal deadline. The emissions reductions needed from mobile sources in that attainment demonstration are provided by California’s existing mobile source control program. The State SIP Strategy in this submittal will provide an additional eight tons per day of oxides of nitrogen reductions in the San Joaquin Valley by 2031. Therefore, CARB Resolution 17-7 includes a commitment to achieve these additional emission reductions with the goal of accelerating progress toward ozone attainment.

Work is underway now to identify the emissions reductions needed from both mobile and stationary sources for attainment of the PM2.5 standards in the San Joaquin Valley. Once that work is completed, as part of a comprehensive plan to attain the PM2.5 standards that will be considered later this year, CARB will provide additional commitments for greater reductions from mobile sources by the PM2.5 attainment deadlines than are included in this submittal.
CARB is committed to working with U.S. EPA staff to provide any additional clarifying information needed. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Kurt Karperos, Deputy Executive Officer, at (916) 322-2739, or have your staff contact Ms. Karen Magliano, Chief, Air Quality Planning and Science Division, at (916) 322-5350.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Richard W. Corey
Executive Officer

Enclosure

cc: See next page.
cc: (with Board Resolutions 17-7 and 17-8 only)

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