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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

March 15, 2018

Achille Alonzi, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division
300 E. 8th Street, Rm 826
Austin, Texas 78701

Subject: Transportation conformity review and concurrence

Dear Mr. Alonzi:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the transportation conformity report and supporting documents submitted by the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (EP-MPO). The purpose of this conformity analysis was to determine if the *Amended Horizon 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan* and the *Horizon 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program* are consistent with area emissions requirements for particulate matter of 10 microns or less (PM₁₀) and carbon monoxide (CO). The City of El Paso is designated nonattainment for PM₁₀, and a portion of the City of El Paso is subject to a maintenance plan for CO.

In order for conformity to be demonstrated for the El Paso PM₁₀ nonattainment area and CO maintenance area, projected PM₁₀ and CO emissions from the amended metropolitan transportation plan and the transportation improvement program must be equal to or less than the applicable motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEB) for those pollutants, as required under Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 93, Subpart A. Regional transportation emissions were projected for analysis years 2010, 2020, 2030, and 2040 and then compared to the PM₁₀ MVEB established in the *PM₁₀ State Implementation Plan for Moderate Area - El Paso*, adopted in 1991, and the CO MVEB included in the *El Paso Revised Maintenance Plan for Carbon Monoxide*, adopted in 2008.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) staff reviewed the transportation conformity determination documents submitted by the EP-MPO. All issues were addressed and resolved in a series of meetings, consultative calls, and e-mails with the EP-MPO, the Federal Highway Administration, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Texas Department of Transportation, and the TCEQ.

The TCEQ is satisfied that all requirements have been met and transportation conformity has been demonstrated. If you have any questions about our review, please contact Ms. Jamie Zech of my staff at 512-239-3935 or jamie.zech@tceq.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Brymer".

David Brymer, Director
Air Quality Division

DB/jz

Mr. Alonzi
March 15, 2018

cc: Jose Campos, Federal Highway Administration
Guy Donaldson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Carlos Swonke, Texas Department of Transportation
Peter Smith, P.E., Texas Department of Transportation
Michael Medina, El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization