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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

November 5, 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) for the *Destino 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan* and the *Destino 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program*. The purpose of this conformity analysis was to determine if the EP-MPO's 2045 metropolitan transportation plan (MTP) and the 2019-2022 transportation improvement program (TIP) are consistent with area emissions requirements for the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for particulate matter of 10 microns or less (PM₁₀) and the carbon monoxide (CO) NAAQS. The City of El Paso is designated nonattainment for the PM₁₀ NAAQS, and a portion of the City of El Paso is subject to a maintenance plan for the CO NAAQS.

To demonstrate conformity, projected PM₁₀ and CO emissions from the area's MTP and TIP must be no greater 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 2020, 2030, 2040, and 2045 and then compared to the PM₁₀ MVEB included 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. The PM₁₀ 1994 MVEB of 12.05 tons per day (tpd) was approved for transportation conformity purposes by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) effective February 17, 1994, and the CO 2020 MVEB of 29.66 tpd was approved effective October 3, 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 emails with the EP-MPO, the Federal Highway Administration, the EPA, 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 "DFH".

Donna F. Huff, Director
Air Quality Division

DFH/jz

Mr. Alonzi
November 5, 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
Roger Williams, El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization