



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200

DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

June 23, 2008

Ms. Janice W. Brown
Division Administrator - Texas
Federal Highway Administration
300 East 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701

REC'D JUN 26 2008

Dear Ms. Brown:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received a proposed revision to the Houston-Galveston Area Council's (HGAC) 2035 Regional Transportation Plan, the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program involving transit projects and the associated request that this revision be considered consistent with the region's November 2007 air quality conformity determination.

The HGAC's Transportation Policy Council approved a proposal by the Metropolitan Transit Authority (METRO) to deploy Light Rail Transit instead of Bus Rapid Transit in four corridors. All issues associated with the revision were discussed in a series of conference calls and e-mails with the Houston-Galveston Area Council, the Federal Highway Administration, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Texas Department of Transportation, and the EPA. Based on the information submitted to EPA and discussed during the interagency consultation process, we have no further comments and are satisfied that these revisions are consistent with the area's air quality conformity determination.

I appreciate your cooperation in consulting with us and ensuring all provisions of the transportation conformity rules have been properly addressed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Jeff Riley of my staff at (214) 665-8542.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guy Donaldson".

Guy Donaldson

Chief

Air Planning Section

cc: Ms. Margie McAllister, TCEQ
Ms. Peggy Thurin, TxDOT
Ms. Shelley Whitworth, HGAC