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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

September 18, 2012

Mr. Robert Tally, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division
826 Federal Building, 300 East 8th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Tally:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the transportation conformity determination for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria nonattainment area. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is satisfied that all requirements have been met.

The area is designated nonattainment for ozone. In order for the area to demonstrate conformity, projected emissions from the 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update and the 2011-2014 Transportation Improvement Program, as amended, must be equal to or less than the applicable motor vehicle emissions budgets, as required under Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 93. Transportation emissions were projected for analysis years 2011, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2025, and 2035. Regional transportation emissions were compared to the budgets in the attainment demonstration and reasonable further progress State Implementation Plan revision for the 1997 eight-hour ozone standard, adopted by the TCEQ on March 10, 2010.

The TCEQ air quality staff reviewed the documents. All issues were discussed in a series of conference calls and e-mails with the Houston-Galveston Area Council, the Federal Highway Administration, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Texas Department of Transportation, and the TCEQ. All issues were resolved through this interagency consultation process.

The TCEQ is satisfied that requirements have been met and transportation conformity has been demonstrated. If you have any questions about our review, please contact Margie McAllister of my staff at 512-239-1967 or margie.mcallister@tceq.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Brymer".

David Brymer, Director
Air Quality Division



Mr. Robert Tally, Division Administrator

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cc: Mr. Alan Clark, Houston-Galveston Area Council
Dr. Graciela Lubertino, Houston-Galveston Area Council
Mr. Jose Campos, Federal Highway Administration
Ms. Shundreka R. Givan, AICP, Federal Highway Administration
Mr. Jeffrey Riley, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ms. Jackie Ploch, Texas Department of Transportation
Mr. Jack Foster, P.E., Texas Department of Transportation
Ms. Michelle Conkle, Texas Department of Transportation

