



Texas Department of Transportation

REC'D SEP 22 2008

P O BOX 149217 • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9217 • (512) 486-5000

September 12, 2008

Ms. Janice W. Brown
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
300 East Eighth Street, Suite 826
Austin, Texas 78701

File: TPP (S)
(512) 486-5038

Attention: Jose Campos

Dear Ms. Brown:

The Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) has submitted the 2008 Transportation Conformity Determination for the amended 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). These documents were reviewed and adopted by the Transportation Policy Committee on June 27, 2008.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has reviewed the Transportation Conformity Determination for the 2035 RTP and the Amended 2008-2011 TIP and has determined that transportation conformity has been demonstrated. The Transportation Planning and Programming Division staff has also reviewed the Transportation Conformity Determination for the 2035 RTP and the Amended 2008-2011 TIP and we find that transportation conformity has been demonstrated.

Please accept this as the official submittal of the conformity findings on behalf of the State. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Peggy Thurin at (512) 486-5036.

Sincerely,

James L. Randall, P.E.
Director, Transportation
Planning and Programming

Attachment

cc: Alan Clark, Houston Galveston Area Council
Margie McAllister, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Timothy Lidiak, Federal Transit Administration, Region 6
Jeffery Riley, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
Kelly Kirkland, Public Transportation Division, TxDOT

Buddy Garcia, *Chairman*
Larry R. Soward, *Commissioner*
Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., *Commissioner*
Mark R. Vickery, P.G., *Executive Director*



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JLR

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

August 26, 2008

Mr. James L. Randall, P.E., Director
Transportation Planning and Programming Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701-2483

Re: Conformity Determination for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria Nonattainment Area

Dear Mr. Randall:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the conformity determination for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) nonattainment area, which was submitted for interagency consultation and review in June 2008. We are satisfied that all requirements have been met, as discussed below.

The HGB area is designated nonattainment for ozone. In order for the area to demonstrate transportation conformity, the area must show that projected emissions from the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and the 2008-2011 Transportation Improvement Program for the Houston-Galveston Transportation Management Area is at or below the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) motor vehicle emissions budgets, as required under Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 93. Transportation emissions were projected for analysis years 2009, 2019, 2025, and 2035. Regional transportation emissions were compared to the 2008 Reasonable Further Progress motor vehicle emissions budget adopted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) May 23, 2007.

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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Texas Department of Transportation, and the TCEQ. All issues were resolved through this interagency consultation process.

The TCEQ is satisfied requirements have been met and transportation conformity has been demonstrated. If you have any questions about our review, please contact Ms. Margie McAllister of my staff at 512-239-1967 or mmcallis@tceq.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susana M. Hildebrand".

for Susana M. Hildebrand, P.E., Director
Air Quality Division

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Mr. James L. Randall, P.E., Director

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August 26, 2008

cc: Mr. Alan C. Clark, Director, Metropolitan Planning Organization
Mr. Jose Campos, Federal Highway Administration
Mr. Jeffrey Riley, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ms. Diana Noble, P.E., Texas Department of Transportation
Ms. Peggy Thurin, P.E., Texas Department of Transportation