

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Protection Division • Air Protection Branch
4244 International Parkway • Suite 120 • Atlanta • Georgia 30354

404/363-7000 • Fax: 404/363-7100

Mark Williams, Commissioner
Judson H. Turner, Director

JUN 21 2012

Ms. Gwendolyn Keyes Fleming
Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104

RE: Maintenance Plan and Redesignation Request for the Macon, Georgia, Annual PM_{2.5}
Nonattainment Area

Dear Ms. Fleming:

With this letter, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is submitting for approval and incorporation the proposed revisions to Georgia's State Implementation Plan (SIP) to include a plan, consistent with §175A of the Clean Air Act, to provide for maintenance of the 1997 Annual PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) in the Macon area. This submittal also serves as a request that the Macon Nonattainment Area be redesignated as an area attaining the 1997 Annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS.

On June 2, 2011, EPA published a final rule determining that the Macon Area had attained the 1997 fine particulate matter standards. On September 8, 2011, EPA published a final rule making a determination that the Macon Area had attained the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} standard prior to the April 5, 2010, attainment date. Georgia EPD withdrew its previous submittal of nonattainment planning documents for the Macon Area in a letter to EPA dated June 29, 2011. The emissions inventory submitted with the June 12, 2009, SIP revision to comply with the Clean Air Act requirements of §172 for nonattainment areas was not affected by the June 29, 2011, request.

The public notice for the proposed SIP revision was advertised using the EPD Air Protection Branch listserv mailing list for public notices. No comments were received. However, Georgia's Heavy Duty Diesel Engines rule [391-3-1-.02(2)(ooo)] was removed from Section 2.3.2 of the prehearing SIP, which is the discussion of state measures that have contributed to permanent and enforceable emissions reductions in the Macon Area. Rule (ooo) was removed because the version currently approved in Georgia's SIP is identical to the requirements of the national rule the most recent rule revision has not been approved by EPA.

As required by the federal SIP-processing regulations, we have enclosed certifications that the required public notices were provided and that a public hearing was held. We have also enclosed the administrative and technical support checklists to satisfy the SIP submittal completeness criteria. This submittal includes one paper copy of each of the relevant documents and a compact disk with an electronic version of the documents. The electronic version is an exact duplicate of the paper copy.

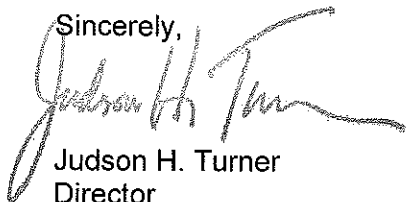
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We look forward to your review and approval of these revisions. Should you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact Jimmy Johnston at (404) 363-7014.

Sincerely,



Judson H. Turner
Director

JHT:JK:klc

Enclosures:

- Maintenance plan (one paper and one CD)
- Administrative checklist
- Technical checklist
- Certification of public hearing
- Copy of public notice

Copy w/o encl:

Scott Davis, EPA Region 4

Lynorae Benjamin, EPA Region 4

James A. Capp, Branch Chief, EPD Air Protection Branch