

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960
MAY 2

PROI~?s
4APT-APB

Ronald W. Gore, Chief
Air Division
Alabama Department of
Environmental Management
PO Box 301463
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1463

Dear Mr. Gore:

On November 1, 2000, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) its proposed 2003 motor vehicle emission budgets for nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) for the Birmingham ozone nonattainment area. ADEM submitted these budgets as a required component of the 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration for Birmingham. The submitted budgets are 52 tons per summer day for VOC and 65 tons per summer day for NOx.

The Agency has reviewed the budgets for adequacy for transportation conformity purposes and has found the proposed 2003 budgets submitted on November 1, 2000, to be adequate in accordance with 40 CFR part 93.118 (e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule. These motor vehicle emission budgets may be used for transportation conformity purposes upon the effective date of the adequacy determination which will be 15 days after publication in the Federal Register. Please note the state implementation plan revision which establishes motor vehicle emissions budgets for conformity purposes activated an 18 month transportation conformity clock on the date of submittal, November 1, 2000. Conformity is required to the submitted budgets for the Birmingham area before May 1, 2002, or their Transportation Plan will lapse. If a lapse occurs, any transportation projects which are not specifically exempted by the conformity rule will not be able to receive approvals or funding by the Department of Transportation.

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Kelly Sheckler of the EPA Region 4 staff at (404) 562-9042.

Sincerely,

Winston A. Smith
Director
Air, Toxics and Pesticides
Management Division

cc: Joe Wilkerson, AL FHWA
Jerry Franklin, FTA-R4
Lelia Cook, EPA-OTAQ
John Seitz, OAQPS
Mack Roberts, ALDOT