UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

FEB 0 2 2006

4APT-APB

Ronald W. Gore, Chief
Air Division
Alabama Department of
Environmental Management
1400 Coliseum Blvd
Montgomery, AL, 36110

Dear Mr. Gore:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Birmingham, Alabama 8-hour Subpart 1 ozone redesignation and maintenance demonstration, dated January 27, 2006, to determine the adequacy of the motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEBs), pursuant to section 93.118(e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 C.F.R. Part 93, Subpart A). The Transportation Conformity Rule identifies limited technical and administrative criteria that must be used in determining adequacy of submitted State Implementation Plan (SIP) MVEBs for transportation conformity purposes. We have determined that the Birmingham, Alabama 8-hour Subpart 1 ozone maintenance demonstration contains adequate MVEBs.

The Birmingham, Alabama 8-hour Subpart 1 ozone maintenance plan has MVEBs for both volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) for 2017. The MVEBs are 23 tons per day (tpd) and 42 tpd for VOC and NOx, respectively. These MVEBs meet the standard requirements that any MVEB must meet before it can be used to determine conformity for a transportation improvement program or long range transportation plan. This adequacy finding does not relate to the merits of the SIP submittal nor does it indicate whether the submittal meets the requirements for approval.

EPA opened a comment period on the adequacy of the MVEBs contained in the Birmingham, Alabama 8-hour Subpart 1 ozone maintenance plan by posting it on our website on November 17, 2005 (See www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/conform/adequacy.htm). The comment period closed on December 19, 2005. No comments were received during EPA's adequacy comment period.

More information on SIPs and adequacy reviews is available on the EPA website. EPA will soon publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing this adequacy finding. The Federal Register will also announce the date that the adequacy finding becomes effective. The 2017 MVEBs will be available for use on the effective date.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Amanetta Wood of the EPA Region 4 staff at (404) 562-9025 or me.

Sincerely,

Jane Bailey for

Carol L. Kemker
Acting Director
Air, Pesticides, and Toxics
Management Division

cc: Chris Howard, ADEM
Sam Bell, Jefferson County Health Dept.
Yvette Taylor, Region 4 FTA
Len LaCour, Region 4 FTA
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Bill Foisy, Birmingham MPO
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