UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 NORTH 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

DEC 17 2004

Ms. Leanne Tippett-Mosby, Director
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Air and Land Protection Division
Air Pollution Control Program
Jefferson State Office Building
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Ms. Tippett-Mosby:

Pursuant to Section 93.118(e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR, Part 93, Subpart A), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the revised 2007 motor vehicle emissions budget for the St. Louis 1-hour ozone maintenance plan. Based on our review, we find that the budget is adequate for conformity purposes.

Under the 8-hour ozone conformity rule which was finalized on July 1, 2004, two options were given to establish motor vehicle emissions budgets for conformity determinations which are made by June 15, 2005. The option to use the existing budgets in the Maintenance Plan for the 1-hour standard was chosen by the St. Louis area through Interagency Consultation meetings held at the East West Gateway Council of Governments. The last year of the 1-hour maintenance plan is 2014, and the budget for that year was approved by EPA. However, the 8-hour attainment date for St. Louis is 2010. Therefore, in order to accurately demonstrate emission reductions under the 8-hour ozone standard, a budget needed to be established for 2007. Because an emissions estimate for volatile organic compounds and nitrous oxides for 2007 was established in the 1-hour maintenance plan for St. Louis, the Interagency Consultation group made the decision to formalize the estimates in to a 2007 motor vehicle emissions budget.

The EPA opened a comment period on the motor vehicle emissions budget by posting the budgets to the EPA web site on November 3, 2004. The web address is www.epa.gov/oms/transp/conform/adequacy.htm. The comment period closed on December 2, 2004, and no comments were received.

The EPA will soon publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing this adequacy finding. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Heather Hamilton of my staff at (913) 551-7039.

Sincerely,

William A. Spratlin
Director
Air, RCRA and Toxics Division

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