



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

JUN 12 2000

A-18J

Bernie Killian, Acting Chief
Bureau of Air
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
1021 North Grand Avenue East
Post Office Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Dear Mr. Killian:

Pursuant to Section 93.118(e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Part 93, Subpart A), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has reviewed the St. Louis ozone attainment demonstration, and supplemental information, submitted on November 15, 1999, and February 10, 2000.

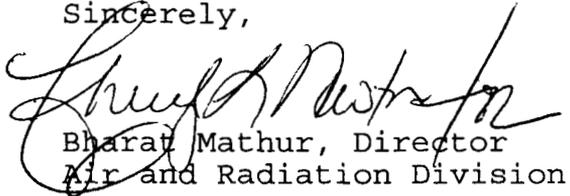
The conformity rule identifies limited technical and administrative criteria that must be used in determining adequacy of submitted State Implementation Plan (SIP) budgets for transportation conformity purposes. We have determined that the St. Louis ozone attainment demonstration contains adequate mobile source emissions budgets for the Illinois portion of the St. Louis area for volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) for the year 2003.

This adequacy finding means that the submitted 2003 motor vehicle emissions budgets for VOC and NOx for the Illinois portion of the St. Louis area meet the standard requirements that any budget must meet before it can be used to determine conformity for a transportation improvement program or long range plan. This adequacy finding does not relate to the merits of the SIP submittal nor does it indicate whether the submittal meets the USEPA's requirements for approval of an attainment demonstration.

The USEPA opened a comment period on the SIP's adequacy by posting it to our web site on February 13, 2000. The web address is www.epa.gov/oms/transp/conform/adequacy.htm. The comment period closed on March 13, 2000, and no comments were received. In addition, the USEPA reviewed the comments made to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency on the St. Louis attainment demonstration.

More information on SIPs and adequacy reviews is also available on the USEPA web site. The USEPA will soon publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing this adequacy finding. If you have questions, please feel free to call me or Patricia Morris, of my staff, at (312) 353-8656.

Sincerely,



Bharat Mathur, Director
Air and Radiation Division

cc: Dennis Lawler
Bureau of Air
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency