

Region 3 Plan Summary
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Area

Title: Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan for the Allegheny County, Pennsylvania Area

Federal Register Dates: November 12, 2002, 67 FR 68545 (proposed rule), 61 FR 68521 (final rule)

EPA Effective date: January 13, 2003

State Submittal Date: November 12, 1992 (emissions inventory), August 17, 2001 (maintenance plan)

Affected Areas: Allegheny County- Areas of high traffic density within the Pittsburgh Central Business District and certain other high traffic density areas.

Summary of the Plan: In its SIP revision, Pennsylvania notes that “the CBD is generally the downtown triangle bounded by the Allegheny River, the Monongahela River and I-579.” Pennsylvania further describes “other high traffic density areas” as the Oakland neighborhood of Pittsburgh.

The National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for CO is 9.5 parts per million (ppm). Pennsylvania has quality-assured CO ambient air monitoring data showing that Allegheny County has met the CO NAAQS. To attain the CO NAAQS, an area must have complete quality-assured CO air monitoring data showing no more than one exceedance of the standard per year over at least three consecutive years.

Between 1988 and 1999, the Allegheny County Health Department continuously operated two monitors in the county, and one additional monitor from 1997. The design value for the latest two years of quality assured data (1998 and 1999) is 3.9 ppm, measured at the Forbes Avenue and Grant Street monitoring site in 1999. Air quality data for the three CO monitoring sites shows that from 1988 through 1999, there were no violations of the 8-hour CO NAAQS in the nonattainment area, the last violation having occurred in 1987. The 1-hour CO standard is also being met at these monitoring sites, the last violation having occurred in 1980.

The 3.9 ppm design value for CO in Allegheny County for the years 1998 and 1999 qualifies the area for use of a “limited maintenance plan” option. This option, which is only available to CO nonattainment areas with design values at or below 7.65 ppm (85 percent of exceedance levels of the CO ambient air quality standard), allows such areas to submit a less rigorous maintenance plan than was formerly required.

Pennsylvania has committed to continue monitoring in these areas in accordance with applicable Federal requirements (40 FR Pert 58). Since the area’s 1990 design value for CO was 8.0ppm, supplemental air quality modeling is not needed to support this request. CO nonattainment areas with design values of 12.7 ppm or lower when the 1990 Act was passed are not required to model attainment of the area on order to redesignate.

Control Measures/Regulations Included As Part of the Plan: Pennsylvania's maintenance plan assumes the following emission control programs, which are or will be permanent and enforceable measures: The Federal Motor Vehicle Control Program (FMVCP) for 1994 and later vehicles (Tier I), and the existing inspection and maintenance (I/M) program. The I/M portion of the CO SIP was approved by EPA on April 8, 1987 (52 FR 11259), and revised to an enhanced program by EPA's approval on June 17, 1999 at 40 CFR § 52.2020(c)(139), (64 FR 32411). The FMVCP is promulgated at 40 CFR Part 86. EPA approved Pennsylvania's general conformity procedures on September 29, 1997 (62 FR 50870) and Allegheny County's general conformity procedures on November 14, 2003 (67 FR 68935). The transportation conformity procedures are promulgated at 40 CFR Part 93.

Conformity Determinations: The limited maintenance plan option allows the Commonwealth to consider the emissions budget as essentially not constraining for the length of the initial maintenance plan.

Emissions Inventories: For purposes of demonstrating compliance with an attainment inventory, typical of a winter day (when CO concentrations are of concern), the Commonwealth prepared and submitted an updated CO emissions inventory for the highway source category in Allegheny County. The 1990 CO emissions inventory for highway, or on-road sources, was updated by Allegheny County and the Commonwealth for the CO redesignation request, using winter-time inputs in MOBILE 5b. This inventory identifies the level of emissions in the area sufficient to attain the NAAQS, since the 1990 design value was 8.1 ppm. The 1999 emissions inventory reflects the impact of the Federal Motor Vehicle Control Program Tier 1 standards, and Pennsylvania's Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance program, as summarized below:

Allegheny County Inventory Year	Highway
1990	1219
1999	625

Demonstration of Maintenance-Projected Inventories: In accordance with the limited maintenance plan option, Allegheny County is not required to project emissions over the maintenance period.

Verification of Continued Attainment: In the submittal the Commonwealth commits to continue to operate and maintain the network of ambient CO monitoring stations to demonstrate ongoing compliance with the CO NAAQS. The submittal presents the tracking plan for the maintenance period which consists of continued CO monitoring. The Commonwealth will continue to monitor CO levels in the Allegheny County Central Business District to demonstrate ongoing compliance with the CO NAAQS.

Contingency Measures: Contingency measures in the plan include restrictions on vehicle idling in the central business district during winter months (November through February), to be

implemented within 12-15 months after a recorded violation of the CO standard (defined as two exceedances of the standard within one year).

Subsequent Maintenance Plan Revisions: Pennsylvania has agreed to submit a revised maintenance SIP eight years after the area is redesignated to attainment. Such revised SIP will provide for maintenance for an additional ten years.

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