



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

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Laurie S. Leffler
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
200 North High Street, Room 328
Columbus, Ohio 43215

MAY 09 2013

Dear Ms. Leffler:

This letter provides the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's comments regarding the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments (Eastgate) 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for the Youngstown area. The associated air quality documentation for the 2040 MTP includes analysis to demonstrate conformity for EPA's 1997 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS or standard). The Youngstown area is currently designated as maintenance for the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS and has approved motor vehicle budgets for precursor emissions related to the standard.

EPA has reviewed the 2040 MTP and associated documentation provided by Eastgate and submitted to EPA for comment by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on April 10, 2013. Based on our review, EPA concludes the 2040 MTP conforms to the approved motor vehicle emissions budgets contained in the area's maintenance plan for the 1997 8-hour ozone standard.

EPA agrees with FHWA's recommendation to determine that the 2040 MTP for the Youngstown area demonstrates conformity for the 1997 8-hour standard as required by the conformity rule at 40 CFR Part 93. We have no further comments at this time.

If you have any questions, please contact Anthony Maietta, of my staff, at (312) 353-8777 or maietta.anthony@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Blakley".

Pamela Blakley
Chief
Control Strategies Section



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Ohio Division

May 14, 2013

200 North High Street, Rm 328
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-280-6896
614-280-6876

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-OH

Jerry Wray
Director
Ohio Department of Transportation
1980 West Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43223

Dear Director Wray:

We have completed our review of the conformity documentation for the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments (Eastgate) updated 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), as adopted per Resolution #017-2013 on April 29, 2013. The conformity documentation includes analyses to demonstrate conformity to the 8-hour ozone standard for the Youngstown area.

Based upon our review, and in consultation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), we find that the 2040 MTP conforms to the applicable state implementation plans in accordance with the provisions of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93).

In accordance with the June 2004, *Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the FHWA-Ohio Division and the Federal Transit Administration-Region V (FTA)*, the FTA has concurred with this conformity determination. In accordance with the MOA, FHWA's single signature constitutes FHWA and FTA's joint air quality conformity determination for the Eastgate 2040 MTP and re-determination of conformity for the Eastgate 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mr. Andy Johns, Planning Specialist, at (614) 280-6896 or andy.johns@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Laura S. Leffler
Division Administrator

ecc: S. Weber, FTA
K. Rodi, Eastgate
A. Maietta, EPA
M. Maleski, OEPA
D. Moore, ODOT
S. Walton, ODOT
A. Johns, FHWA-OH
L. Oesterling, FHWA-OH

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