

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-R01-OAR-2007-0373; A-1-FRL-8321-6]

Adequacy Status of the Submitted 2009 Early Progress Direct PM_{2.5} and NO_x Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets for Transportation Conformity Purposes; Connecticut; New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT PM_{2.5} Area

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of adequacy.

SUMMARY: In this notice, EPA is notifying the public that EPA has found that the 2009 motor vehicle emissions budgets in the April 17, 2007 Connecticut State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision are adequate for transportation conformity purposes. The submittal included MOBILE6.2 motor

vehicle emissions budgets for 2009 for the Connecticut portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT PM_{2.5} Area. On March 2, 1999, the D.C. Circuit Court ruled that budgets in submitted SIPs cannot be used for conformity determinations until EPA has affirmatively found them adequate. As a result of our finding, the State of Connecticut can use the MOBILE6.2 motor vehicle emissions budgets from the submitted plan for future conformity determinations for the Connecticut portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT PM_{2.5} area.

DATES: These motor vehicle emissions budgets are effective June 20, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald O. Cooke, Environmental Scientist, Air Quality Planning Unit, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA New England Regional Office, One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (CAQ),

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Throughout this document, whenever “we,” “us” or “our” is used, we mean EPA.

Today’s notice is simply an announcement of a finding that we have already made. EPA New England sent a letter to Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection on May 24, 2007, stating that the 2009 MOBILE6.2 motor vehicle emissions budgets in the April 17, 2007 State Implementation Plans (SIPs) are adequate for transportation conformity purposes. This finding will also be announced on EPA’s conformity Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/adequacy.htm>, (once there, click on “What SIP submissions has EPA already found adequate or inadequate?”). The adequate motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEBs) are provided in the following table:

ADEQUATE MOTOR VEHICLE EMISSIONS BUDGETS

	Direct PM _{2.5} (tons per year)	NO _x (tons per year)
Year 2009 MVEBs for the Connecticut portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT PM _{2.5} Area.	360	18,279

Transportation conformity is required by section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act. EPA’s conformity rule requires that transportation plans, programs, and projects conform to state air quality implementation plans and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they do. Conformity to a SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the national ambient air quality standards.

The criteria by which we determine whether a SIP’s motor vehicle emission budgets are adequate for conformity purposes are outlined in 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4). Please note that an adequacy review is separate from EPA’s completeness review, and it also should not be used to prejudge EPA’s ultimate approval of the SIP. Even if we find a budget adequate, the SIP could later be disapproved.

We have described our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP budgets in a May 14, 1999 memorandum entitled “Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999 Conformity Court Decision.” Additional guidance on EPA’s adequacy process was published in a July 1, 2004

Federal Register final rulemaking, “Transportation Conformity Rule Amendments for the New 8-hour Ozone and PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards and Miscellaneous Revisions for Existing Areas; Transportation Conformity Rule Amendments: Response to Court Decision and Additional Rule Changes” (69 FR 40004). We followed this guidance in making our adequacy determination.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Dated: May 29, 2007.

Robert W. Varney,
Regional Administrator, EPA New England.
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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-ORD-2007-0243; FRL-8321-5]

Board of Scientific Counselors, Ecological Research Program Mid-Cycle Review Meeting—Spring 2007

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, the Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development (ORD), gives notice of one meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) Eco Mid-Cycle Subcommittee.

DATES: The meeting (a teleconference call) will be held on Thursday, June 28, 2007, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. All times noted are eastern time. The meeting may adjourn early if all business is finished. Requests for the draft agenda or for making oral presentations at the meeting will be accepted up to 1 business day before the meeting.

ADDRESSES: Participation in the conference call will be by teleconference only—a meeting room will not be used. Members of the public may obtain the call-in number and access code for the call from Heather Drumm, whose contact information is listed under the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2007-0243, by one of the following methods: