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Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[R08-CO-2010-0001; FRL-9121-8]

Adequacy Determination for the Denver Metro Area and North Front Range 8-Hour Ozone Attainment Plan's Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for Transportation Conformity Purposes; State of Colorado

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of adequacy.

SUMMARY: In this notice, EPA is notifying the public that the Agency has found that the motor vehicle emissions budgets for nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) contained in the Denver Metro Area and North Front Range 8-Hour Ozone Attainment Plan (hereafter "Denver/NFR Ozone Attainment Plan") are adequate for transportation conformity purposes. The Denver/NFR Ozone Attainment Plan was submitted to EPA as a revision to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) on June 18, 2009, by James B. Martin, Director, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. As a result of our finding, the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), the North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (NFR MPO), the Colorado Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Transportation are required to use these motor vehicle emissions budgets for

future transportation conformity determinations once this finding becomes effective.

DATES: This finding is effective March 19, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tim Russ, Air Program (8P-AR), United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8, 1595 Wynkoop Street, Denver, Colorado 80202-1129, (303) 312-6479, or russ.tim@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Throughout this document, whenever "we," "us," or "our," are used, we mean EPA.

This notice is simply an announcement of a finding that we have already made. EPA sent a letter to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) on January 21, 2010, stating that the motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEB) in the submitted Denver/NFR Ozone Attainment Plan are adequate. The MVEBs in the Denver/NFR Ozone Attainment Plan were posted for adequacy review on EPA's transportation conformity Web site on October 15, 2009. The public comment period closed on November 16, 2009 and we did not receive any comments in response to the adequacy review posting ([see http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/currstips.htm#denver-me](http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/currstips.htm#denver-me)).

The MVEBs we found adequate are presented in the following table:

Area of applicability	2010 NO _x emissions (tons per day)	2010 VOC emissions (tons per day)
Northern Subarea ¹	20.5	19.5
Southern Subarea ¹	102.4	89.7
Total Nonattainment Area	122.9	109.2

¹ The Subareas are defined in section VI of the Denver/NFR Ozone Attainment Plan.

As we stated in our January 21, 2010 letter to CDPHE, the initial conformity determination must be done using the total nonattainment area MVEBs for NO_x and VOCs. After the initial conformity determination, DRCOG and the NFR MPO may switch from using the total nonattainment area MVEBs to using the sub-area MVEBs for determining conformity. To switch to use of the sub-area MVEBs (or to subsequently switch back to use of the total nonattainment area MVEBs), DRCOG and the NFR MPO must use the process as described in the Denver/NFR Ozone Attainment Plan on pages VI-4 through VI-6.

Transportation conformity is required by section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act.

The conformity rule provisions at 40 CFR part 93 require that transportation plans, programs, and projects conform to SIPs and establish 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 Standard (NAAQS).

The criteria by which we determine whether a SIP's MVEBs are adequate for conformity purposes are outlined in 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4) which was promulgated August 15, 1997 (*see* 62 FR 43780). We described our process for determining the adequacy of submitted

SIP MVEBs in our July 1, 2004 Transportation Conformity Rule Amendments (*see* 69 FR 40004). We used these resources in making our adequacy determination. Please note that our adequacy review is separate from our rulemaking action on the Denver/NFR Ozone Attainment Plan and should not be used to prejudice our ultimate approval or disapproval of the SIP revision. Even if we find a budget adequate, we may later disapprove the SIP.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: February 19, 2010.

Carol Rushin,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 8.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-9121-6]

Office of Research and Development; Ambient Air Monitoring Reference and Equivalent Methods: Designation of One New Equivalent Method

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of the designation of one new equivalent method for monitoring ambient air quality.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has designated, in accordance with 40 CFR part 53, one new equivalent method for measuring concentrations of lead (Pb) in total suspended particulate matter (TSP) in the ambient air.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Surender Kaushik, Human Exposure and Atmospheric Sciences Division (MD-D205-03), National Exposure Research Laboratory, U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711. Phone: (919) 541-5691, email: Kaushik.Surender@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with regulations at 40 CFR part 53, the EPA evaluates various methods for monitoring the concentrations of those ambient air pollutants for which EPA has established National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQSs) as set forth in 40 CFR part 50. Monitoring methods that are determined to meet specific requirements for adequacy are designated by the EPA as either reference methods or equivalent methods (as applicable), thereby permitting their use under 40 CFR part 58 by States and other agencies for determining compliance with the NAAQSs.

The EPA hereby announces the designation of one new equivalent method for measuring lead (Pb) in total suspended particulate matter (TSP) in the ambient air. This designation is made under the provisions of 40 CFR part 53, as amended on November 12, 2008 (73 FR 67057-67059).

The method is identified as follows: EQL-0310-189, "Procedure for Determination of Lead in Ambient Air

TSP by Hot Plate Acid Extraction and ICP-MS Analysis."

In this method, total suspended particulate matter (TSP) is collected according to 40 CFR Appendix B to part 50, *EPA Reference Method for the Determination of Suspended Particulate Matter in the Atmosphere (High-Volume Method)*, extracted on a hot plate with 3M HNO₃ according to 40 CFR Appendix G to part 50, *EPA Reference Method for the Determination of Lead in Suspended Particulate Matter Collected from Ambient Air*, and analyzed by Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) based on EPA SW-846 Method 6020A.

The application for an equivalent method determination for this method was submitted by Inter-Mountain Laboratories, Incorporated, 1673 Terra Avenue, Sheridan, WY 82801 and was received by the Office of Research and Development on December 16, 2009.

The analytical procedure of this method has been tested in accordance with the applicable test procedures specified in 40 CFR part 53, as amended on November 12, 2008. After reviewing the results of those tests and other information submitted in the application, EPA has determined, in accordance with part 53, that this method should be designated as an equivalent method for lead. The information provided by the applicant will be kept on file, either at EPA's National Exposure Research Laboratory, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711 or in an approved archive storage facility, and will be available for inspection (with advance notice) to the extent consistent with 40 CFR part 2 (EPA's regulations implementing the Freedom of Information Act).

As a designated equivalent method, this method is acceptable for use by states and other air monitoring agencies under the requirements of 40 CFR part 58, Ambient Air Quality Surveillance. For such purposes, the method must be used in strict accordance with the complete operating procedures (SOPs) associated with the method and subject to any specifications and limitations specified in the procedure.

Use of the method should also be in general accordance with the guidance and recommendations of applicable sections of the "Quality Assurance Handbook for Air Pollution Measurement Systems, Volume I," EPA/600/R-94/038a and "Quality Assurance Handbook for Air Pollution Measurement Systems, Volume II, Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Program" EPA-454/B-08-003, December, 2008 (available at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/amt/qabook.html>).

Provisions concerning modification of such methods by users are specified under section 2.8 (Modifications of Methods by Users) of Appendix C to 40 CFR part 58.

Repeated noncompliance with the method procedure/SOP should be reported to: Director, Human Exposure and Atmospheric Sciences Division (MD-E205-01), National Exposure Research Laboratory, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711.

Designation of this new equivalent method is intended to assist the States in establishing and operating their air quality surveillance systems under 40 CFR part 58. Questions concerning the technical aspects of the method should be directed to the applicant.

Jewel F. Morris,

Acting Director, National Exposure Research Laboratory.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-9121-7]

Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Advisory Committee (FRRCC)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of Charter Renewal

The Charter for the Environmental Protection Agency's Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Advisory Committee (FRRCC) will be renewed for an additional two-year period, as a necessary committee which is in the public interest, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App.2. The purpose of the FRRCC is to provide advice to the Administrator of EPA on environmental issues and policies that are of importance to agriculture and rural communities. It is determined that the FRRCC is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Agency by law. Inquiries may be directed to Alicia Kaiser, U.S. EPA, (mail code 1101-A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460, telephone (202) 564-7273, or kaiser.alicia@epa.gov.

Dated: February 18, 2010.

Lawrence Elworth,

Agricultural Counselor to the Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2010-4549 Filed 3-3-10; 8:45 am]

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