Air Resources Board

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Agency Secretary

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

April 21, 2004

Mr. Wayne Nastri
Regional Administrator
Region 9
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Mr. Nastri:

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) hereby submits to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for approval the 2004 revisions to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP) for ozone in Ventura County (2004 Ventura SIP). As requested in our April 13, 2004 parallel processing submittal for this plan, we ask that U.S. EPA make an expeditious finding on the adequacy of the motor vehicle emissions budgets that are needed to support a new transportation conformity determination for the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) region by June 8, 2004.

Background The Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (District) adopted the 2004 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP/Plan) on April 13, 2004. This Plan was transmitted to ARB on April 13, 2004 for approval and submittal to U.S. EPA. The revision recalibrates the motor vehicle portion of the emissions inventory to reflect extensive updates to vehicle activity and emission estimates. Although Ventura County is a severe-15 ozone nonattainment area with an attainment date of 2005, the region has achieved the one-hour ozone standard during the 2000-2002 and the 2001-2003 periods.

Plan Elements The most significant revisions in the 2004 Plan are as follows:

1. Updated on-road motor vehicle emissions for historical and future years to reflect current data, including the latest planning assumptions. The updated emissions will replace on-road vehicle estimates contained in the attainment and progress demonstrations of the approved 1994/1995 Ventura SIP.

2. Revised transportation conformity emission budgets for 2005 that reflect adopted vehicle emission control regulations not included in the existing SIP and budgets.

3. Monitoring data showing sustained improvement in ozone levels in Ventura County, and attainment of the federal one-hour ozone standard from 2000 through the present.

The 2004 Plan demonstrates that the existing motor vehicle control program will continue to reduce emissions below the levels that contributed to attainment from 2000-2003. The improvement in Ventura's ozone levels, combined with these additional reductions, demonstrate that the updated motor vehicle inventory in this submittal meets applicable federal requirements for attainment and progress.

While the 2004 Plan is not intended to update stationary, area, or off-road mobile source inventories, the comprehensive emission inventory for the Southern California Ozone Study shows that Ventura County emissions are decreasing at a slightly higher rate than projected in the attainment demonstration approved by U.S. EPA as part of the 1994/1995 Ventura SIP.

Enclosures This package consists of five copies of the following:

I) April 13, 2004 letter from Mr. Michael Villegas, District Air Pollution Control Officer, transmitting the following materials to ARB:

   A) Final Ventura County 2004 Air Quality Management Plan Revision, March 2004, with Appendix A-2004, Reactive Organic Emission Reductions from Measures Adopted/Revised After December 1, 1996; and Appendix O-2004, On-Road Motor Vehicle Emission Inventory Documentation;

   B) District Board Resolution approving and adopting the 2004 AQMP, including and Environmental Impact Report (EIR), consisting of the 1991 AQMP EIR and Addenda 1 through 4 to the 1991 EIR;

   C) Proof of Publication for Notice of Public Hearing;

   D) April 13, 2004 Ventura County Air Pollution Control Board Packet, including the EIR and written comments on the 2004 Plan; and

   E) SIP Completeness Checklist.

II) ARB Executive Order G-125-321 adopting the 2004 Ventura County SIP.

III) Transportation conformity budget summary and methods used to develop baseline motor vehicle planning inventories.

IV) Completeness Checklist for the 2004 Ventura County SIP.

This submittal letter, the ARB Executive Order, detailed information about the data and methodologies used to develop the motor vehicle emission budgets, and links to the 2004 AQMP are available at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/planning/sip/vcsip04/vcsip04.htm.

If you have any questions, please call Ms. Lynn Terry, Deputy Executive Officer, at (916) 322-2739, or have your staff contact Ms. Cynthia Marvin, Chief, Air Quality and Transportation Planning Branch, at (916) 322-7236.

Sincerely,

/s/ LMT for CEW

Catherine Witherspoon
Executive Officer

Enclosures

cc: See next page.

cc: (With Enclosure II Only)

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