

Agenda Item No. 2(c)(i and ii)

## Nonattainment Designation Transportation Impacts

### Nonattainment Area Conformity Requirements

- General Conformity – Federal projects with estimated emissions above established de minimis levels must demonstrate that the expected emissions will not jeopardize an area's ability to achieve air quality standards.
- Transportation Conformity - The estimated emissions from the area's long-range transportation plan and transportation improvement program (TIP) must be less than specified levels for several analysis years. If not, a conformity lapse occurs and only exempt projects or those with federal authorization can proceed. The lapse also applies to non-federally funded regionally significant projects. A conformity demonstration is required:
  - at least every four years
  - for a new or amended plan or TIP
  - for changes to regionally significant projects (design concept or scope, analysis years)
  - for a SIP submittal or SIP approval
  - for a new EPA emissions model

### Transportation Impacts of a Nonattainment Designation

- The long-range plan update cycle is 4 years instead of 5 years.
- Eligible for CMAQ funding for emission reducing transportation projects and programs
- Less flexibility in transportation project planning and implementation
- Project mix becomes more critical and is partially determined by emissions estimates
- Transportation Conformity requirements apply until 20 years after the area is back in compliance.
- Federal funding and approvals can be delayed for SIP or conformity failures.

### Timeline

- March 2009 - State designation recommendations due to EPA
- March 2010 – EPA designates nonattainment areas, based on 2007-2009 monitoring data (three year average of the annual 4<sup>th</sup> highest monitor reading at each regulatory monitor)
- **June 2010 - CAMPO 2035 long-range plan deadline (must include demonstration of transportation conformity)**
- **2011 – Initial transportation conformity demonstration deadline**
- 2013 – SIP deadline
- 2013 – Marginal area compliance deadline