



Capital Area Council of Governments
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December 8, 2009

Clean Air Coalition:

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Biscoe
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Caldwell County

Mr. Guy Donaldson
Chief, Air Planning Section
U.S.E.P.A. Region 6, 6PD-L
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

With the completion of the 2009 ozone season it appears that the design value for the Austin region has now been reduced from the 77 parts per billion (ppb) last year to a value of 75 ppb for the 2007-2009 three-year period. Since this is indication that the current design value is not only below 80 ppb but also decreasing, the requirements listed in Section 3.7.2 8-hour O3 Flex Program Progress Report to request EPA approval for changing to an annual report have been met. Accordingly, on behalf of the Central Texas Clean Air Coalition, I am requesting that EPA approve a change to the reporting frequency for the 8-hour O3 Flex Program from a semiannual to an annual report. Since we submitted our last semiannual report in June of this year, this request is for that report to be considered fulfillment of the annual report requirement for 2009, and that submittal of a semiannual report for December 2009 not be required.

The 2009 commitments in the 8-O3 Flex have been met, including the invitation of new members to join the Clean Air Coalition and make commitments to implement local voluntary efforts for improving air quality. A copy of the invitation letter along with the list of addressees is enclosed. Additionally, the "Big Push" effort initiated by local stakeholders during the 2009 ozone season to maximize efforts to reduce ozone also appears to have made a successful contribution to lowering local ozone levels sufficient to meet the 2008 standard.

With the EPA reconsideration of a new standard(s) for ozone and proposal due on December 21, there is much interest and attention on what the new standard will be and what impacts it will have on our attainment status. Regardless of what the new ozone standard turns out to be, the Austin region plans to continue carrying out commitments in the current 8-O3 Flex, and will plan on providing a comprehensive annual progress report in 2010.

We look forward to continued partnership with EPA and TCEQ in improving the air quality in the Austin region. If you have any questions concerning this 8-O3 Flex reporting issue please contact Bill Gill at (512) 916-6066.

Sincerely,

Samuel Biscoe
Travis County Judge
Chair, Central Texas Clean Air Coalition

Enclosures (2)

cc: Kim Herndon, Acting Manager, Air Quality Planning Section, TCEQ