



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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Acting Commissioner

March 26, 2009

The Honorable George Pavlou
Acting Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2
290 Broadway- 26th Floor
New York, New York 10007-1866

Dear Acting Regional Administrator Pavlou:

Enclosed for your approval are revisions to the New Jersey State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the Attainment of the 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS).¹ The primary purpose of this SIP revision is to demonstrate that the multi-state nonattainment areas which include New Jersey will attain the 1997 PM_{2.5} annual NAAQS. This plan also provides progress towards attaining the 24-hour PM_{2.5} NAAQS and helps reduce regional haze.

The primary components of this SIP revision are:

- 1) A demonstration that the two multi-state nonattainment areas associated with New Jersey will attain the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} health-based standard by April 5, 2010. This demonstration relies upon New Jersey and the rest of the Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) states implementing the control measures contained in the regional 2009 attainment modeling.
- 2) A Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) analysis which demonstrates that additional reductions of direct PM_{2.5} and its precursors, SO₂ and NO_x, from major source categories are reasonable.
- 3) A Reasonably Available Control Measures (RACM) analysis which demonstrates that there are no other Reasonably Available Control Measures that would advance the nonattainment areas' attainment date by one year.

¹ New Jersey and the other states that share New Jersey's 1997 PM_{2.5} multi-state nonattainment areas have always met the 1997 daily PM_{2.5} health-based standard of 65 µg/m³. These same states face the challenge of meeting the new 2006 daily PM_{2.5} standard of 35 µg/m³.

- 4) Contingency measures for the State to implement in case New Jersey does not attain the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} standard by April 5, 2010.
- 5) Onroad vehicle emission budgets for use by the Metropolitan Planning Organizations to ensure their plans and programs are in conformance with the SIP. The SIP revision addresses transportation conformity requirements for the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS. Each of the two Metropolitan Planning Organizations that have planning areas that include counties that are located within nonattainment areas² must meet these budgets (once they are approved by the USEPA) in order to ensure that their plans and programs are in conformance with the SIP.
- 6) A request that the USEPA, in reviewing the attainment demonstrations and other SIP revisions from other states, take into consideration their impact on New Jersey's attainment needs, and ensure that other states are doing all that is reasonable to help the multi-state nonattainment areas attain as soon as practicable.

In addition, the SIP revision contains:

- Background and introductory information on direct PM_{2.5} and its precursors;
- How the actions committed to in this PM_{2.5} SIP revision support the State's other PM-related air quality challenges;
- A summary of PM_{2.5} ambient air quality and inventory trends data for New Jersey and its associated multi-state nonattainment areas;
- Descriptions of all the control measures relied upon in the SIP revision;
- A reaffirmation of New Jersey's actions and commitments with respect to transported emissions, as required by Section 110 (a)(2)(D)(i) of the Clean Air Act (and commonly referred to as the transport SIP requirement); and,
- A summary of all New Jersey's commitments and requests of the USEPA.

On June 16, 2008, Commissioner Jackson forwarded a copy of the proposed SIP to your office for review and comments. The New Jersey Department of Environment Protection (NJDEP) held a public hearing on New Jersey's proposal on August 8, 2008, and accepted written comments relevant to the proposal until the close of business on August 15, 2008. A summary of comments received on this SIP revision, as well as the State's responses to those comments, is included as part of the enclosed SIP submittal document in Appendix F. Appendix F also includes a summary of all substantive NJDEP-initiated changes to the SIP document since proposal. In our submittal of the proposal version of SIP revision, we requested that the USEPA parallel process this SIP revision.

The SIP revision demonstrates that New Jersey will attain the PM_{2.5} NAAQS by the attainment deadline. Two additional pieces of evidence that support this conclusion that are not included in the SIP revision are New Jersey's 2008 PM_{2.5} annual design values and an unmonitored area analysis conducted by the New York New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in February of 2009. The 2008 PM_{2.5} annual design values for all of

² The two Metropolitan Planning Organizations affected are the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC).

New Jersey monitors, including both multi-state nonattainment areas, are below the NAAQS threshold of $15.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (see Attachment 1). The highest $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ annual design value is $14.1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ at the Hudson monitor. The second piece of evidence that supports New Jersey's demonstration of attainment is the unmonitored analysis presented in Attachment 2. The USEPA provided states with a beta version of Modeled Attainment Test Software (MATS) (2.01) in June 2008 but this software was not available prior to the SIP submittal, as indicated in Chapter 5 of the SIP revision. The NYSDEC applied this version of MATS to the results obtained as part of the SIP modeling effort. The table in Attachment 2 contains a listing of the counties, the associated grid cell, and the estimated design value for annual $\text{PM}_{2.5}$. The analysis indicates that there are no grid cells exceeding the annual $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ NAAQS of $15.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

If you have any questions regarding this SIP revision, please contact Chris Salmi, Assistant Director of Air Quality Management in the NJDEP's Division of Air Quality, at (609) 984-1484.

Sincerely yours,



Mark N. Mauriello
Acting Commissioner

Enclosures: Attachment 1, Attachment 2, and SIP Document

c: Stephen Dilts, NJDOT Commissioner
Ray Werner, USEPA
Richard Ruvo, USEPA