



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
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DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

cc: Randy, Yeh, Chuck, V. Sabin
Chairman Austin, John H., Stephan

OPAF

JUN 23 2000



Honorable George W. Bush
Governor of Texas
Austin, TX 78711

RECEIVED BY OPA
TRACKING # 10483
ASSIGNED TO: Wood

JUN 29 2000

Dear Governor Bush:

DUE DATE: FYI

On April 28, 2000, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received from you the Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP) for clean air containing the following items which outline Texas' efforts to clean the ozone from Texas air in compliance with the federal Clean Air Act:

- 1) the Dallas/Fort Worth 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration SIP,
- 2) the Beaumont/Port Arthur Phase II attainment demonstration SIP,
- 3) the Inspection and Maintenance program for the Dallas/Fort Worth area,
- 4) the Texas' Regional Ozone Strategy, and
- 5) revisions to the State's fuel rules.

Under the federal Clean Air Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must first determine if your submissions are complete, i.e. all legally required parts are submitted, and second, determine if your submissions are approvable, i.e. the plan meets the requirements to clean the air.

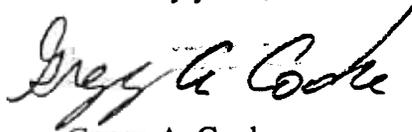
We hereby do the first action required by the federal Clean Air Act and find the Dallas/Fort Worth 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration SIP, the Beaumont/Port Arthur Phase II attainment demonstration SIP, the Inspection and Maintenance program for the Dallas/Fort Worth area, the Texas' Regional Ozone Strategy, and revisions to the State's fuel rules to be complete.

As you know, the previous Dallas/Fort Worth 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration SIP submitted by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission was incomplete, thus subjecting North Texas to the spectre of sanctions, including potential loss of highway funds. EPA's action today demonstrates the State of Texas has passed the first task of presenting a complete air quality plan and halts current sanctions against North Texas. However, this action today is not a determination of whether this plan brings North Texas into attainment under the Clean Air Act by 2007.

In addition to issues that may be identified in EPA's review of the plan, a number of lawsuits have been filed recently by the regulated community seeking to invalidate or enjoin key rules contained in the State Implementation Plan. These actions, if successful, may invalidate portions of the State Implementation Plan and may cause Texas to identify additional control

measures. We remain committed to working with you on these and other issues to determine strategies to provide clean air for all of Texas. We continue to applaud efforts by local elected officials, environmental groups, and the public to identify measures to improve our air quality. Ultimately, millions of Texas citizens living in or near non-attainment areas will be the real beneficiaries of the cleaner air.

Sincerely yours,



Gregg A. Cooke
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Ralph Marquez, Commissioner
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission

Mr. Jeffery A. Saitas, P.E., Executive Director
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission