

The comment period closed on March 3, 2003, and we received no comments.

Today's notice is simply an announcement of a finding that we have already made. EPA Region 6 delivered a letter to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality on March 27, 2003, finding that the motor vehicle emissions budgets in the Baton Rouge 5-Parish ozone nonattainment area are adequate and must be used for transportation conformity determinations.

Transportation conformity is required by section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act. EPA's conformity rule, 40 CFR part 93, requires that transportation plans, programs and projects conform to SIPs and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they do so. Conformity to a SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The criteria by which EPA determines whether a SIP's motor vehicle emission budgets are adequate for conformity purposes are outlined in 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4). Please note that such an adequacy review is separate from EPA's completeness review, and it should not be used to prejudge EPA's ultimate approval of the SIP. Even if we find a budget adequate, the SIP could later be disapproved.

On March 2, 1999, the DC Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that budgets contained in submitted SIPs cannot be used for conformity determinations unless EPA has affirmatively found the conformity budget adequate. We have described our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP budgets in the policy guidance dated May 14, 1999, and titled *Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999, Conformity Court Decision*. We followed this guidance in making our adequacy determination. You may obtain a copy of this guidance from EPA's conformity website or by contacting us at the address above.

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: May 16, 2003.

**Lawrence E. Starfield,**

*Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 6.*

[FR Doc. 03-13718 Filed 5-30-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[Region 2 Docket No. NJ60-258; FRL-7506-2]

### Adequacy Status of the Submitted 2005 and 2007 Revised Attainment Demonstration Budgets for the 1-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Transportation Conformity Purposes for the New Jersey Severe Ozone Nonattainment Areas

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of adequacy.

**SUMMARY:** In this notice, EPA is notifying the public that we have found the revised attainment year motor vehicle emissions budgets ("budgets") for volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) in the submitted revision to the 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration state implementation plan (SIP) for New Jersey's severe nonattainment areas to be adequate for conformity purposes. These attainment year budgets were recalculated using EPA's latest motor vehicle emissions factor model, MOBILE6. On March 2, 1999, the DC Circuit Court ruled that submitted state implementation plan budgets cannot be used for conformity determinations until EPA has affirmatively found them adequate. As a result of our finding, the New Jersey portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island severe ozone nonattainment area can use the revised 2007 attainment year budgets of VOC and NO<sub>x</sub> from the submitted revision to the 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration SIP for future conformity determinations. These 2007 budgets also apply to the New Jersey portion (Warren County) of the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton marginal ozone nonattainment area. The New Jersey portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton severe ozone nonattainment area can use the revised 2005 attainment year budgets of VOC and NO<sub>x</sub> from the submitted revision to the 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration SIP for future conformity determinations. These 2005 budgets also apply to the Atlantic City moderate ozone nonattainment area.

**DATES:** This finding is effective June 17, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kenneth M. Champagne, Air Programs Branch, Environmental Protection Agency—Region 2, 290 Broadway, 25th Floor, New York, New York 10007-1866, (212) 637-4249, [champagne.kenneth@epa.gov](mailto:champagne.kenneth@epa.gov).

The finding and the response to comments will be available at EPA's conformity Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/traq>, (once there, click on the "Conformity" button, then look for "Adequacy Review of SIP Submissions for Conformity").

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Today's notice is simply an announcement of a finding that we have already made. EPA Region 2 sent a letter to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection on May 19, 2003, stating that the revised attainment year budgets in the submitted 1-hour ozone attainment demonstration SIP revision (dated April 8, 2003) for the New Jersey portions of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island and Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton severe ozone nonattainment areas are adequate for conformity purposes. The purpose of New Jersey's April 8, 2003, submittal was to address its enforceable commitment to revise the attainment year budgets using MOBILE6 within one year of the release of the model. This enforceable commitment was approved by EPA on February 4, 2002 (67 FR 5152). EPA's adequacy finding will also be announced on EPA's conformity Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/traq>, (once there, click on the "Conformity" button, then look for "Adequacy Review of SIP Submissions for Conformity").

Transportation conformity is required by section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act. EPA's conformity rule requires that transportation plans, programs, and projects conform to SIPs and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they conform. Conformity to a SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the national ambient air quality standards.

The criteria by which we determine whether a SIP's motor vehicle emission budgets are adequate for conformity purposes are outlined in 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4). Please note that an adequacy review is separate from EPA's completeness review, and it also should not be used to prejudge EPA's ultimate approval of the SIP. Even if we find a budget adequate, the SIP could later be disapproved.

We have described our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP budgets in guidance (May 14, 1999 memo titled "Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999 Conformity Court Decision"). We followed this guidance, which can also be found on EPA's Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/traq>.

[www.epa.gov/otaq/traq](http://www.epa.gov/otaq/traq), in making our adequacy determination.

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 7401–7671q.

Dated: May 19, 2003.

**Jane M. Kenny,**

*Regional Administrator, Region 2.*

[FR Doc. 03–13719 Filed 5–30–03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560–50–P**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–7506–1]

### Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Methyl Bromide Critical Use Exemption and Allocation Planning; Notice of Stakeholder Meeting

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of stakeholder meetings.

**SUMMARY:** EPA will hold stakeholder meetings this summer on the methyl bromide critical use exemption (CUE) program in Washington D.C. and in locations around the country to be announced. The stakeholder meetings will assist applicants with the 2003 critical use exemption (CUE) application, provide guidance to 2002 critical use exemption applicants, and discuss options for allocation of methyl bromide under the CUE. For additional information on the application workshops and for logistical information, please contact the Office of Pesticide Programs. Preliminary information on additional, tentatively scheduled workshops is listed below. Updated information will be posted to both [www.epa.gov/ozone/mbr](http://www.epa.gov/ozone/mbr) and [www.epa.gov/pesticides](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides). Interested members of the public are encouraged to R.S.V.P. no later than June 10, 2003, by 5 p.m. for the June 16 allocation session by contacting the Office of Air and Radiation as listed under **ADDRESSES**.

**DATES:** The meetings will take place:

1. *Washington, DC*—Allocation options session: Monday, June 16, 2003, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at EPA Judiciary Square, 1st Floor Conference Room, 501 3rd Street, NW., Washington, DC 20009. CUE application workshops—the week of June 16, 2003.
2. *Raleigh, North Carolina*—the week of June 16, 2003.
3. *East Lansing, Michigan*—the week of June 16, 2003.
4. *Orlando, Florida*—the week of June 24, 2003.
5. *Parlier, California*—the week of June 24, 2003.
6. *Washington, DC*—Allocation options session: Friday, August 15, 2003, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at EPA

Judiciary Square, 1st Floor Conference Room, 501 3rd Street, NW., Washington, DC 20009.

**ADDRESSES:** Send R.S.V.P.'s for the June 16 Washington DC allocation sessions to Hodayah Finman at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Global Programs Division (6205J), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC, 20460; via phone at 202–564–2651 or electronic mail at [finman.hodayah@epa.gov](mailto:finman.hodayah@epa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information about the application workshops and logistics, contact Bill Chism, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs (7503C), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone: (703) 308–8136; e-mail: [chism.bill@epa.gov](mailto:chism.bill@epa.gov).

For additional information and R.S.V.P.s on the allocation options sessions, contact Hodayah Finman, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Atmospheric Programs (6205J), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone: (202) 564–2651; e-mail: [finman.hodayah@epa.gov](mailto:finman.hodayah@epa.gov).

For further information on the Critical Use Exemption from the phaseout of methyl bromide, contact the U.S. EPA Stratospheric Ozone Information Hotline at 1–800–296–1996.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Methyl bromide is a chemical pesticide that has been identified as an ozone-depleting substance under the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer* (Protocol) and the Clean Air Act. It is scheduled for complete phaseout by January 1, 2005. The Critical Use Exemption is designed to allow continued production and import of methyl bromide after the phaseout for those uses that demonstrate they have no technically and economically feasible alternatives.

The purpose of the June 16 meeting, and other sessions on the allocation rule, is for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to describe potential options for allocating critical use exemptions authorized by the Parties to the Protocol and to provide a public fora for input on the issues raised by allocation options. At this first session on June 16, EPA will describe possible options to be discussed in the allocation notice and comment rulemaking process. The presentation of possible allocation options will be followed by a lengthy question and answer session. At the subsequent session on August 15, EPA will seek stakeholder comments and statements on the allocation options in either an oral or written format. At this time, EPA is announcing the time

and location for sessions on allocation options to be held in Washington, DC and requests that all interested members of the public R.S.V.P. to the Office of Air and Radiation no later than June 10, 2003, by 5 p.m. for the June 16 session and no later than July 29 at 5 p.m. for the August 15 meeting. EPA will be having additional discussions about the notice and comment rulemaking process for the allocation of critical use exemptions as part of the meetings to be held in locations outside of Washington DC. Further information on the other methyl bromide sessions regarding the CUE application process will be posted to both [www.epa.gov/ozone/mbr](http://www.epa.gov/ozone/mbr) and [www.epa.gov/pesticides](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides). Additional information about the Critical Use Exemption of methyl bromide can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/ozone/mbr>.

Individuals wishing to attend these meetings or participate via conference call are encouraged to R.S.V.P. For those who cannot travel to the Washington DC, sessions on allocation options, there will be 20 conference call lines available on a first come, first served basis. When registering, please give your name, organization, postal (and electronic, if any) mailing address, telephone, and fax number. All statements, questions, and answers will become part of the public record and will be considered in the development of any proposed rule. If there is insufficient interest in a meeting, that particular meeting may be canceled. The Agency bears no responsibility for attendees' decisions to purchase nonrefundable transportation tickets or accommodation reservations.

Dated: May 22, 2003.

**Drusilla Hufford,**

*Director, Global Programs Division.*

[FR Doc. 03–13720 Filed 5–30–03; 8:45 am]

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–7506–6]

### Notice of Proposed Prospective Purchaser Agreement Pursuant to CERCLA and RCRA, BKK Landfill Site, West Covina, CA

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice; request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that a proposed prospective purchaser agreement associated with the BKK Landfill site, located in West Covina, Los Angeles County, California was