Colbert/Lauderdale County, Alabama SO₂ Attainment Plan

Effective Redesignation Date: 3/15/93(58 FR 3848, 1/12/93)

Background of the Plan: In a Federal Register notice published March 3, 1978, Lauderdale and Colbert Counties, Alabama, were designated as nonattainment for SO₂. On April 8, 1992, the Air Division od ADEM submitted a request for Colbert and Lauderdale Counties to be redesignated to attainment for SO₂. This request was based on five years (1987-1991) of quality assured monitoring data obtained from the four ambient monitors located in both countries which showed that Colbert County and Lauderdale County had not violated the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for SO₂. The State has also implemented controls to reduce emissions to the level indicated by dispersion modeling. The State of Alabama has met all of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAA) requirements for redesignation pursuant to 107(d)(3)(E). SS 107(d)(3)(E)(i) The Administrator has determined that the area has attained the National Ambient Air Quality Standard.

Summary of the Plan: On April 28, 1992, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) submitted a request for redesignation to attainment for sulfur dioxide (SO₂) in Colbert and Lauderdale Counties, Alabama. The redesignation request included five years of quality assured monitoring data which showed no exceedances of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for SO₂. The State has also implemented controls to reduce emissions to the level indicated by dispersion modeling. EPA redesignated Colbert County, Alabama, and Lauderdale County, Alabama to attainment for sulfur dioxide (SO₂).

Emission Reductions: TVA Plant Colbert comprises the only significant source of SO₂ emissions in Lauderdale and Colbert Counties. Therefore, all SO₂ emission reductions came from this source. TVA Plant Colbert's new allowable emission rate of 2.2lbs SO₂ emitted/mmBTU was made permanent and federally enforceable through a source specific SIP revision published January 23, 1990 at 55 FR 2235. The revision was made to ensure that no emission limit reflects credit for the use of any stack height greater that Good Engineering Practice (GEP). Dispersion modeling results for Plant Colbert showed that it would be necessary to revise the allowable SO₂ emissions rate from 4.0 lbs SO₂ emitted/mmBTU to 2.2 lbs. SO₂ emitted/mmBTU. This reduction of credit for stack heights in excess of GEP ensured protection of the NAAQS at ground level as well as decreasing interstate impacts from SO₂ transport. Therefore, permanent enforceable SO₂ emissions reductions have been made through State and Federal Programs.

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