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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27711

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OFFICE OF
AIR QUALITY PLANNING
AND STANDARDS

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Early Action Compacts (EACs): The June 16, 2003 Submission and Other Clarifications

FROM: Lydia N. Wegman, Director
Air Quality Strategies and Standards Division

TO: Air Directors, Regions III, IV, VI, and VIII

This memorandum responds to questions from States and local EAC areas about what needs to be included in the milestone submittals and semiannual reports due June and December 2003. As we have stated before, completion of each of the critical milestones and schedules as described in the "Protocol for Early Action Compacts Designed to Achieve and Maintain the 8-hour Ozone Standard" ("Protocol"), revised November 2002, and the November 14, 2002 memorandum from Jeffrey Holmstead to EPA Regional Administrators is essential if areas are to remain eligible for participation in the EAC program. To ensure that the 2003 submissions and subsequent milestones will be met, we are issuing this memorandum (1) to provide State and local air pollution control agencies some general guidelines to assist them in completing the June 16, 2003 submission; (2) to clarify what should be included in the semiannual reports due in June and December 2003; and (3) to clarify several technical requirements of the program to ensure that the attainment demonstrations being developed in conjunction with the local air quality plans are representative of current information and conditions.

1. June 16, 2003 Submission

The Protocol and the November 14, 2002 Holmstead memorandum require EAC areas to identify and describe the local control measures that will be considered during the local planning process. This June 16, 2003 milestone must be met to maintain eligibility in the EAC program. This submission can be referenced in the June 2003 progress report, as described in the Section 2 of this memorandum.

We recommend that EAC areas, based on stakeholder consultation, submit by June 16, 2003 a list of candidate local control measures that is sufficient to ensure a control strategy can be developed to achieve attainment of the 8-hour ozone standard by 2007. As provided in the Protocol, areas should describe each of the local control measures under consideration.

As EAC areas prepare and subsequently analyze the June 2003 list of local measures, we advise the participants to work with stakeholders to consider carefully each of the following components needed to develop an attainment strategy:

- Local control measures that can reasonably be implemented in each area. Among the factors to consider are the resource and political constraints of that specific area;
- Realistic implementation dates for the control measures;
- The range of potential emissions reductions that will result from each control measure based on reasonably available information. (In accordance with the Protocol, these local measures must be specific, quantified, and permanent, and that if approved by EPA, will be federally enforceable SIP revisions.) A list of resources containing emissions reduction estimates for specific measures can be found in the attachment to this memorandum; and
- The geographic area to which control measures could be applied.

Any public comments received in response to the June 16, 2003 submissions will be posted on EPA's EAC website at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/ozone/eac/> .

2. June 30, 2003 Progress Report

The Protocol requires local areas to assess and report every 6 months their progress against milestones in a regular, public process. At a minimum, the June 2003 progress report should do the following:

- Document progress in developing the stakeholder process, including the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholder groups, a list of stakeholders, and a brief summary of stakeholder meetings;
- Report progress on evaluating and selecting emission reduction measures for the local control strategy, including stakeholder involvement in the development of the initial list of control measures (The June 2003 progress report can reference the June 16, 2003 submission discussed above.);
- Describe public outreach activities (press coverage, public presentations, websites, etc.); and
- Provide an update on modeling/technical planning activities.

3. December 31, 2003 Progress Report

As part of the December 2003 progress report, EAC areas should address in detail each of the bulleted components discussed in section 1 above. This progress report will be an important element in EPA's consideration of whether or not to grant a deferral of the effective date of the nonattainment designation at the time of final designations in April 2004. More specifically, the progress report should address:

- A list of control measures still under consideration for adoption by the local area as part of the March 2004 submission;
- Likely implementation dates for the local control measures that are under consideration;
- Current assessment of the amount of emissions reductions expected to be achieved through implementation of the local control measures; and
- The geographical area in which each control measure is anticipated to apply.

4. Attainment Demonstration

As State and local agencies move forward to develop the modeling and other technical analyses in support of attainment demonstrations for EAC areas, they have asked EPA for clarification of the modeling guidance and its application to EAC areas. As modeling demonstrations will become part of the enforceable SIP, State and local agencies should do the following:

- Follow the most recent OAQPS modeling guidance ("Draft Guidance on the Use of Models and Other Analyses in Attainment Demonstrations for the 8-hour Ozone NAAQS," May 1999, EPA-454/R-99-004); see: <http://www.epa.gov/scram001/guidance/guide/drafto3.pdf> ;
- Model most current emissions inventory, preferably 2002; however, if 2002 is not available, use of a 1999 or later inventory for EAC modeling is acceptable;
- Base 2007 projections on 1999 emissions inventory or later;
- Use MOBILE6 in both the current and future inventories;
- Select episodes that are representative of the area's ozone problem;
- Use appropriate assumptions and emissions analysis techniques in quantifying emissions reductions.

Please advise your States that any deviations from the above guidance need to be reviewed by and coordinated with the EPA Regional Office. For additional clarification of these and other technical requirements, State and local agencies should refer to questions and answers related to EAC modeling issues at: <http://www.epa.gov/scram001/guidance/guide/eac-ozone.pdf>. This document, which will be updated periodically with additional questions as necessary, provides clarification of the current modeling guidance and its application to EAC areas.

I hope this information will be helpful to you and EAC areas as they move forward to meet the swiftly-approaching milestone and semiannual reports for this year.

Any questions related to EAC policy issues should be directed to David Cole at 919/541-5565, while questions related to EAC modeling and attainment demonstration issues should be directed to Ellen Baldrige at 919/541-5684.

cc: Air Directors, Regions I, II, V, VII, IX, X
Margo Oge, OTAQ
Steve Page, OAQPS
Peter Tsirigotis, OAQPS
Joe Tikvart, OAQPS
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Jan Tierney, OGC

ATTACHMENT

Resources for Identification of Control Strategies, Emission Reduction Estimates and Emission Inventories

URL	Downloadable Document(s) and Websites
www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/costemis.pdf	“Summary Review of Costs and Emission Reductions for 24 CMAQ Projects” (September 1999)
www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/publicat/pub_volu.htm	“Quantification of Episodic Control Programs” (EPA420-R-97-0061, April 1997)
www.epa.gov/oms/transp/comchoic/sipguide.pdf	“Index of Transportation Measure Quantification Efforts: Methodology Matrix” (EPA420-R-98-018, September 1998)
www.epa.gov/oms/transp/comchoic/sipguide.pdf	“State Implementation Plan Development Guidance: Using Emission Reductions from Commuter Choice Programs to Meet Clean Air Act Requirements” (EPA420-R-98-007, December 1998)
www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/publicat/pub_tcms.htm	“Benefit Estimates for selected TCM Programs” (EPA420-R-98-002, July 1999)
www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/publicat/pub_tech.htm	Transportation and Air Quality ACM Technical Overviews. These documents provide overviews of individual TCMs, discussing their advantages, disadvantages, and issues involved in their implementation. Topics: <i>Accelerated Retirement of Vehicles, Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs, Commute Alternative Incentives, Congestion Pricing, Guaranteed Ride Home, High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes, Intelligent Transportation Systems, Parking Management, Parking Pricing, Improved Public Transit, Telecommuting, Traffic Flow Improvements, Trip Reduction Ordinances, Work Schedule Changes</i>

www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/publicat/pub_mrkt.htm	“Opportunities to Improve Air Quality Through Transportation Pricing Programs” (EPA420-R-97-004, July 1997)
www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/publicat/pub_pedo.htm	“TDM Case Studies and Commuter Testimonials” (August, 1997) Successful transportation demand management programs are described in 19 case studies.
www.epa.gov/dced/pdf/comparing_methodologies.p	“Comparing Methodologies to Assess Transportation and Air Quality Impacts of Brownfields and Infill Development” (EPA-231-R-01-001, August 2001)
PDF file will be made available on EAC website at: www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/ozone/eac/	“Methodologies for Estimating Emission and Travel Activity Effects of TCMs” (EPA-420-R-94-002, July 1994)
www.epa.gov/ttn/chief/	Clearinghouse for Inventories and Emission Factors, including a new draft of an update to the 1999 National Emission Inventory (March 11, 2003)
PDF file will be made available on EAC website at: www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/ozone/eac/	“Meeting the 15-Percent Rate-of-Progress Requirement Under the Clean Air Act: A Menu of Options,” STAPPA/ALAPCO, September 1993.
PDF file will be made available on EAC website at: www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/ozone/eac/	“Controlling Nitrogen Oxides Under the Clean Air Act: A Menu of Options,” STAPPA/ALAPCO, July 1994.
PDF file will be made available on EAC website at: www.epa.gov/ttn/naaqs/ozone/eac/	“Serious and Severe Ozone Nonattainment Areas: Information on Emissions, Control Measures Adopted or Planned and Other Available Control Measures,” November 24, 1999.
www.epa.gov/otaq/voluntary.htm	EPA Website: Transportation and Air Quality Voluntary Programs, including Green Vehicle Guide, Voluntary Diesel Retrofit Program, and Commuter Choice Leadership Initiative, U.S. EPA (updated January 10, 2003)

www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/traqdata.htm	EPA Website: Transportation and Air Quality Planning, Clearinghouse and Databases. Includes Survey of Episodic Control Programs, Market Incentives Resource Center for Air Quality Programs, Smart Travel Resource Center, Transportation-related Grants Database, and Transportation Control Measures Program Information Directory (updated June 28, 2002)
www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/landguid.htm	"Improving Air Quality Through Land Use Activities." Report (EPA420-R-01-001, January 2001)
www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/traqtcms.htm	EPA Website on Transportation Control Measures: On-line Database; Methodologies for Estimating Emission and Travel Activity Effects of TCMs - (EPA420-R-97-004, July 1997)
www.trb.org	Transportation Research Board Website: Quantifying Air-quality and Other Benefits and Costs of Transportation Control Measures