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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

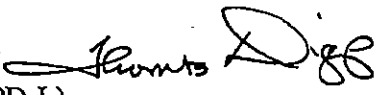
REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

July 19, 2006

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Assessment of Progress for
Early Action Compact Areas

FROM: Thomas H. Diggs, Chief 
Air Planning Section (6PD-L)

TO: Barbara Driscoll, Acting Group Leader
Geographic Strategies Group (C539-04)

We are pleased to acknowledge receipt of the June 30, 2006, progress assessments from each of the seven Early Action Compact (EAC) areas in Region 6: San Juan County/Farmington, New Mexico; Shreveport-Bossier City, Louisiana; Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Oklahoma; Austin/San Marcos, Northeast Texas/Longview-Marshall-Tyler, and San Antonio, Texas. The submittals were received on time and meet the requirements specified for semi-annual reports in the *Protocol for Early Action Compacts Designed to Achieve and Maintain the 8-Hour Ozone Standard* and include the documentation requested in the 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) Final Rule, published April 30, 2004 (69 FR 23858).

Our review of each of the June 2006 submittals finds that sufficient progress toward implementing all the required activities in the EAC State Implementation Plans (SIP) is being made. In all areas, the control measures detailed in the EAC SIPs have been implemented. In several EAC areas, substitute measures have or will replace EAC SIP measures that face implementation schedule delays. In each of these cases, the substitute measures have or will provide equal or greater reductions than those being replaced.

The San Antonio area is the only EAC designated as nonattainment for the 8-hour ozone NAAQS in Region 6. This area has shown steady improvement, with declining trends in both the 8-hour ozone design value and number of days above the standard since 2002. Finally, the San Antonio EAC area is working with local industry to install control measures that will assist in reducing pollutants from facilities proposed for construction in the area. We recommend the San Antonio EAC area receive the third and final extension of the effective date of nonattainment designation to April 15, 2008.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Carrie Paige, phone number (214) 665-6521, at your convenience.