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June 10, 2004

Mr. Carl Edlund (6PD)
Multimedia Planning and Permitting Director
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Dear Mr. Edlund,

I am pleased to submit the enclosed June 2004 Progress Report for the San Juan County, New Mexico Early Action Compact (EAC) for ozone. This report documents progress achieved with the EAC and other related work in San Juan County from December 2003 through June 2004. The report provides details about local control measures, public outreach since December 2003, and the next steps in this important project.

The State of New Mexico looks forward to your approval of this submittal and our continued work to protect air quality in San Juan County. If you have any questions about the enclosed report, please contact Andy Berger of my staff at (505) 955-8034.

Sincerely,

Sandra Ely
Air Quality Bureau Chief

Enclosure

cc: Tom Diggs, EPA, Region 6 (6PD-L)
Michael Morton, EPA, Region 6 (6PD-L)

San Juan County, New Mexico
Early Action Compact Progress Report
June 2004

Overview

This document reports the progress achieved from December 2003 through June 2004 in meeting the milestones of the Early Action Compact (EAC) to address ground-level ozone in San Juan County, New Mexico. The EAC is a signed agreement that permitted the New Mexico Environment Department's Air Quality Bureau to work with stakeholders from San Juan County in addressing ozone levels that approached the 8-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone. The goal of the EAC is to prevent an exceedence of the NAAQS for ozone, and by doing so, avoid a nonattainment designation for the area. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), San Juan County, and the cities of Aztec, Bloomfield, and Farmington signed the San Juan County EAC in 2002. Since the December 2003 progress report, NMED has continued to work with the EAC signatories, the Four Corners Ozone Task Force, and the public to complete the EAC and initiate new efforts related to ozone in San Juan County.

Local Control Measures and the SIP Revision

Potential control measures considered by the EAC signatories were listed in the document entitled Control Strategies for Ozone Formation in San Juan County, which was submitted to EPA on June 11, 2003. Due to the low ozone design values modeled for the EAC area, no control measures are mandatory to avoid a nonattainment designation for San Juan County, nor are measures currently mandatory to model 2007 8-hour ozone concentrations in San Juan County that are within the 8-hour ozone NAAQS. These results are described in more detail in the Clean Air Action Plan submitted to EPA on March 25, 2004.

The San Juan County EAC signatories and NMED are committed to ensuring that the area remains in attainment of the 8-hour ozone NAAQS. To this end, a public outreach campaign and a voluntary program for emissions controls are now being developed and implemented. Public outreach will include maintenance of the website, public service announcements and educational outreach materials for children. The voluntary program for emissions controls, which is being developed with input from a stakeholder workgroup, will initially focus on recognizing companies for voluntarily reducing emissions of nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds from oil and gas production in the New Mexico portion of the San Juan Basin. This geographic area encompasses the entire EAC area of San Juan County.

No formal adoption of control measures is necessary at this time because a sufficient demonstration of attainment has been completed. This means that no revision to the New Mexico State Implementation Plan will be necessary by the end of 2004. All modeling and analyses were completed prior to the end of March 2004 and are detailed in available reports and summarized in the Clean Air Action Plan.

Public Outreach since December 2003

Since December 2003, the following meetings of EAC stakeholders and public outreach efforts related to the EAC have taken place:

- Public meeting with modeling contractor and Ozone Task Force to present and discuss results from base case and future case ozone modeling: January 14, 2004

- Meetings with each of the four local EAC signatories (San Juan County, Aztec, Bloomfield, Farmington) to present and discuss results from base case and future case ozone modeling: February 2004

- Public meeting with Ozone Task Force to present and discuss results from additional future year results (maintenance for growth and control strategy modeling) and a draft of Clean Air Action Plan: March 17, 2004

- Public presentation about ozone, EAC, and other air quality issues with stakeholders in Durango, Colorado: March 18, 2004

- Presentation about ozone and EAC to American Society of Safety Engineers, Four Corners Chapter: April 16, 2004

- Design and printing of ozone educational activity book and posters for students in San Juan County: Spring 2004

- Meeting with School Superintendents to discuss educational outreach related to ozone educational activity book for students: April 21, 2004

- Presentation about ozone and EAC to San Juan County Board of Realtors: April 21, 2004

- Public presentation about ozone and the EAC at the Four Corners Oil and Gas Conference in Farmington, New Mexico: May 12, 2004

Next Steps

With the EAC milestones met and no future milestones necessary on the basis of the ozone modeling results, next steps for the EAC will be the implementation of the voluntary program for emissions reductions and continued public outreach. The voluntary program will operate out of NMED offices. Public outreach will include a revamped website, public service announcements, and future meetings and teacher trainings related to the ozone educational activity book and posters for students. In addition, NMED is planning for limited monitoring of volatile organic compounds in San Juan County during 2004.