



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

September 25, 2015

John F. Sullivan, III, P.E.
Division Administrator
North Carolina Division Office
Federal Highway Administration
310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Thank you for your letter requesting our review of the transportation conformity determinations for the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} and carbon monoxide (CO) conformity determinations for the Updated Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-2020 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) and the Amended 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plans (MTPs) for the Greensboro Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (GMPO), the High Point Metropolitan Planning Organization (HPMPO), and the Winston-Salem Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WSMPO) located in the Greensboro (Triad), North Carolina maintenance areas. We have completed our review, and recommend a finding of conformity for the PM_{2.5} and CO standards for the updated FY 2016-2020 TIPs and the amended 2040 MTPs for the Triad area.

On June 20, 2013, the United States Environmental Protection Agency approved a maintenance plan, known as a "limited maintenance plan," for Forsyth County located in the Winston-Salem, North Carolina CO maintenance area effective July 22, 2013. This limited maintenance plan has a 2015 horizon year. Because of the approved limited maintenance plan, the WSMPO no longer has to complete a regional emissions analysis for the CO standard pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 93.109(e). However, all other transportation conformity requirements under 40 CFR 93.109(b) continued to apply until May 23, 2015. As of May 24, 2015, the WSMPO has fulfilled the requirement under 40 CFR 93.102(b)(4) to demonstrate transportation conformity for the CO standard for Forsyth County for the 20 year maintenance period. Therefore, transportation conformity requirements no longer applies for the CO standard in this area. We have completed our review, and recommend a finding of conformity for the PM_{2.5} and CO standards for the updated FY 2016 -2020 TIPs and the amended 2040 MTPs.

On August 15, 1997, and subsequently on July 1, 2004, the EPA published revisions related to the "Criteria and Procedures for Determining Conformity to State or Federal Implementation Plans of Transportation Plans, Programs, and Projects Funded or Approved Under Title 23 U.S.C. or the Federal Transit Act," or Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Part 93). These revisions outline the criteria that must be met for the 8-hour ozone standard. The EPA has reviewed the conformity determinations related to the PM_{2.5} and CO standards for the updated FY 2016-2020 TIPs and amended 2040 MTPs,

and has concluded that all of the criteria, including those outlined in the July 1, 2004, conformity rule revision entitled, "Transportation Conformity Rule Amendments: Conformity Amendments for New 8-hour Ozone and PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Response to March 1999, Court Decision and Additional Rule Changes," (69 FR 40004) have been met.

Thank you again for the opportunity to review the conformity determinations for the PM_{2.5} and CO standards for the updated FY 2016-2020 TIPs and amended 2040 MTPs for the GMPO, HPMPO, BGMPO and the WSMPO located in the Triad, North Carolina maintenance area. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Dianna B. Myers of the EPA Region 4 staff at (404) 562-9207.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dianna B. Myers" or similar, written in black ink.

Lynorae Benjamin
Chief

Air Regulatory Management Section

cc: Eddie Dancausse, FHWA NC
Loretta Barren, FHWA NC
Randy Strait, NCDNER
Heather Hildebrandt, NCDOT
Tajsha LaShore, FTA Region 4



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

North Carolina Division

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October 1, 2015

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-NC

Mr. Nicholas J Tennyson
Secretary
North Carolina Department of Transportation
1501 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1501

Dear Secretary Tennyson:

We reviewed the Triad Area Conformity Determination Report for:

- The Burlington Graham (BG) MPO 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- The BG MPO FY 2016-2025 TIP
- The Greensboro (G) MPO 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- The G MPO FY 2016-2025 TIP
- The High Point (HP) MPO 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- The HP MPO FY 2016-2025 TIP
- The Winston Salem (WS) MPO 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- The WS MPO FY 2016-2025 TIP

The BG MPO, the G MPO, the HP MPO and the WS MPO made conformity determinations on their 2040 MTPs and the FY 2016-2025 TIPs (the TIPs are direct subsets of the 2040 MTPs) on the following dates:

- BG MPO on August 18, 2015
- G MPO on September 23, 2015
- HP MPO on September 22, 2015
- WS MPO on September 17, 2015

The FHWA and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) reviewed these documents. We also coordinated our review with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 and enclosed their comments with this letter.

Based on our review and comments provided by the US EPA, we find that the following areas conform to the purpose of the State Implementation Plan in accordance with 40 CFR Part 93:

- The BG MPO 2040 MTP
- The BG MPO FY 2016-2025 TIP
- The G MPO 2040 MTP
- The G MPO FY 2016-2025 TIP
- The HP MPO 2040 MTP

- The HP MPO FY 2016-2025 TIP
- The WS MPO 2040 MTP
- The WS MPO FY 2016-2025 TIP

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Sullivan, III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "S".

For John F. Sullivan, III, P.E.
Division Administrator

Enclosure