



State of Mississippi

TATE REEVES
Governor

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

CHRIS WELLS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January 25, 2021

Mr. John Blevins
Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303-3104

Re: Commitment to Address 40 CFR Part 51, Appendix W Reference for Mississippi's 2015 Ozone iSIP

Dear Mr. Blevins:

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is submitting this letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to request conditional approval of the portions of the 2015 8-hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Infrastructure State Implementation Plan (iSIP) related to Sections 110(a)(2)(C), 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(II) [Prong 3], 110(a)(2)(J), and 110(a)(2)(K) of the Clean Air Act, which are the elements pertaining to the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and air quality modeling. We are also requesting full approval of all other elements of the 2015 Ozone iSIP, which includes elements previously submitted to the EPA (i.e., Section 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(I) [Prongs 1 and 2]) under separate cover letter.

On February 11, 2019, MDEQ submitted a draft of its 2015 Ozone iSIP to EPA for an initial review prior to finalizing the draft for public review and comment. After an initial review, EPA determined that the PSD and air quality modeling elements for Mississippi's 2015 Ozone iSIP (i.e., Section 110(a)(2)(C), 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(II) [Prong 3], 110(a)(2)(J), and 110(a)(2)(K)) could not be fully approved. EPA identified references in 11 MISSISSIPPI ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, PART 2, CHAPTER 2 and 11 MISSISSIPPI ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, PART 2, CHAPTER 5 that do not cite the most recent version of 40 CFR Part 51, Appendix W, Guideline on Air Quality Models. On July 31, 2019, MDEQ began a 30-day public comment period for the entire iSIP. EPA commented on Section 110(a)(2)(D) Prongs 1 and 2, and MDEQ submitted Section 110(a)(2)(D) Prongs 1 and 2 to EPA for approval on September 4, 2019. Today, MDEQ is submitting the remaining portions of the ozone iSIP to EPA for approval.

MDEQ is also providing a written commitment under Section 110(k)(4) of the Clean Air Act to take action to meet the requirements of the PSD and air quality modeling elements for its 2015

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Ozone iSIP by adopting a rule revision no later than one year after EPA's conditional approval of these portions of Mississippi's ozone iSIP. Specifically, MDEQ intends to amend 11 MISSISSIPPI ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, PART 2, CHAPTER 2 and 11 MISSISSIPPI ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, PART 2, CHAPTER 5 to cite the current version of 40 CFR Part 51, Appendix W, Guideline on Air Quality Models by January 2022. MDEQ's anticipated schedule to complete the rule revision is as follows:

Public Comment Period	September 2021
Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality Action	October 2021
Secretary of State Submission & Rule Effective Date	December 2021
EPA Submittal	January 2022

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Keith Head at khead@mdeq.ms.gov or (601) 961-5577 or Melissa Fortenberry at mfortenberry@mdeq.ms.gov or (601) 961-5556.

Sincerely,



Chris Wells
Executive Director
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY