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July 10, 2013

Mr. James Redeker, Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Transportation
2800 Berlin Turnpike
P.O. Box 317546
Newington, Connecticut 06131-7546

Subject: Connecticut Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination for the New 2008 8-Hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)

Dear Commissioner Redeker:

At the Connecticut (CT) Interagency Air Quality (AQ) Consultation meeting held on June 11, 2013, it was agreed that the November 2011 joint Federal AQ Conformity Determination of CT's 2011 Regional Transportation Plans and FFY 2012-15 Transportation Improvement Plans (TIPs) could be used to validate continued conformity to the new 2008 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). The deadline to demonstrate conformity to the new ozone NAAQS is July 20, 2013.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have reviewed the Connecticut Department of Transportation's (CTDOT) "Ozone Air Quality Conformity Determination" for the 2011 Regional Transportation Plans and Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) dated July 1, 2012. CTDOT concurrently transmitted these reports to the CT Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region I for review on July 1, 2012.


By letter dated July 3, 2013, the EPA notified FHWA and FTA of its finding that CTDOT's air quality conformity analyses, with respect to the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS, is in accordance with EPA's Transportation Conformity Rule, and will support a USDOT positive conformity determination for the continued air quality conformity of the 2011 Regional Transportation Plans and the FFY 2012-2015 TIPs for the following areas:


- (1) Connecticut Portion of the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT 2008 8-hour ozone nonattainment area
- (2) Greater Connecticut 2008 8-hour ozone nonattainment area

Accordingly, FHWA and FTA are hereby making a positive conformity determination of continued air quality conformity with respect to the new 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS of CT's 2011 Regional Transportation Plans and the FFY 2012-2015 TIPs.

Should you have any questions regarding this subject, please feel free to contact Ms. Eloise Powell at (860) 494-7566, or Mr. Noah Berger at (617) 494-2100.

Sincerely,


Mary Beth Mello
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration


Amy Jackson-Grove
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

cc: Mr. Donald Cooke, EPA Region I
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Connecticut Regional Planning Organization Executive Directors

Bcc: Subject File: 431.17