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May 6, 2010

CERTIFIED MAIL

A. Stanley Meiburg, Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8909

Re: Request for a One-Year Extension of the 8-hour Ozone Attainment Date for the Portion of York County, South Carolina that falls within the Rock Hill-Fort Mill Area Transportation Study (RFATS) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) part of the Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area

Dear Dr. Meiburg:

Pursuant to Section 181(a)(5) of the Clean Air Act as amended (CAAA), the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (Department) requests that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) extend by one year the 1997 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard attainment date to June 15, 2011, for the Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, North Carolina-South Carolina 8-hour Ozone Moderate Nonattainment area (Metrolina area). Section 172(a)(2)(C) of the Clean Air Act, as amended, allows the USEPA administrator to extend the attainment date for one year even if the area has a 3-year design value above the standard for the attainment year, provided certain conditions exist. South Carolina has complied with all requirements and commitments pertaining to the area in the South Carolina State Implementation Plan. The attainment demonstration and its additions have gone through public comment and preliminary review by Region 4 EPA staff, and were submitted on April 29, 2010.

The *Federal Register* notice for the Phase 1 Final Rule to Implement the 1997 8-hour Ozone NAAQS (69 FR 23951) states that "under both sections 172(a)(2)(C) and 181(a)(5), an area will be eligible for the first of the 1-year extensions under the 8-hour standard if, for the attainment year, the area's 4th highest daily 8-hour average is 0.084 ppm or less." The Metrolina area has met this requirement for the 2009 ozone season. The North Carolina Division of Air Quality (NCDAQ) has certified to the USEPA that the 2009 ozone concentration data and quality assurance data are completely submitted to the USEPA's Air Quality system and that the ambient data are accurate when the quality assurance findings are taken into consideration. NCDAQ submitted certification letters for this data to you with their request for a one-year extension of the attainment date for the Metrolina area. Below is a table of the North Carolina ozone monitors in the Metrolina area with the observed fourth highest 8-hour ozone concentration for the 2009 ozone season. South Carolina has no ozone monitors in the Metrolina area.

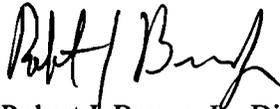
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Monitoring Site	County	2009 4th Highest Concentration
Arrowood	Mecklenburg	0.068
County Line	Mecklenburg	0.071
Crouse	Lincoln	0.065
Enochville	Rowan	0.073
Garinger (Plaza)	Mecklenburg	0.069
Monroe	Union	0.067
Rockwell	Rowan	0.071

The Department believes that the Metrolina area has met the requirements for Section 172(a)(2)(C) of the CAAA. Accordingly, South Carolina is requesting a one-year extension of the attainment date for the York portion of the Metrolina area, from June 15, 2010, to June 15, 2011.

Should you or your staff have any questions or comments concerning this request, please contact Nelson Roberts of the Bureau of Air Quality at 803-898-4122 or via electronic mail at robertln@dhec.sc.gov.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Brown, Jr., Director
Division of Air Assessment, Innovations and Regulation
SCDHEC Bureau of Air Quality

ec: Richard A. Schutt, Chief, Air Planning Branch, EPA Region 4
Lynorae Benjamin, Chief, Regulatory Development Section, EPA Region 4
Jane Spann, Ozone Coordinator, EPA Region 4
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Renee Shealy, Assistant Bureau Chief, Bureau of Air Quality, SCDHEC
L. Nelson Roberts, Jr., Manager, Air Quality Standards and Assessment, SCDHEC
Maeve S.R. Mason, Manager, Air Regulation and SIP Management Section, SCDHEC
Keith Overcash, Director, North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources,
Division of Air Quality
Laura Boothe, Attainment Planning Branch Supervisor, North Carolina Department of Environment
and Natural Resources, Division of Air Quality