

REVISIONS TO THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SIP)  
FOR THE CONTROL OF OZONE AIR POLLUTION

NORTHEAST TEXAS FLEXIBLE ATTAINMENT REGION SIP

TEXAS NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
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**NORTHEAST TEXAS FLEXIBLE ATTAINMENT REGION SIP  
LIST OF APPENDICES**

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B	Tyler/Longview/Marshall Flexible Attainment Region Emission Inventory Ozone Precursors, VOC and NO <sub>x</sub> 1995 Emissions
C	Additional Documentation on Agreed Orders Regarding Quantification of Emission Reductions

## SECTION VI: CONTROL STRATEGY

### A. INTRODUCTION (No change.)

### B. OZONE CONTROL STRATEGY

1. - 9. (No change.)

10. SIP REVISIONS FOR THE REDESIGNATION, [AND] MAINTENANCE PLANS, AND FLEXIBLE ATTAINMENT AREAS (Revised. See attached Chapters 1-3)

a. Victoria Redesignation and Maintenance Plan (No change.)

b. Northeast Texas Flexible Attainment Region (New.)

11. SIP REVISIONS FOR POST-96 RATE-OF-PROGRESS (No Change.)

12. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS OF THE PLAN (Revised.)

Because the Northeast Texas FAR was a local voluntary initiative, the state has not performed an analysis of social and economic considerations.

### 13. FISCAL AND MANPOWER RESOURCES (Revised.)

It is estimated that there will be a negligible additional impact on state resources because each affected company with an Agreed Order will continue to have regularly scheduled inspections.

### 14. HEARING REQUIREMENTS

a. - h. (No change.)

i. Public Hearings for the Northeast Texas Flexible Attainment Region SIP Revision (New.)

The state conducted a public hearing for this SIP revision on January 7, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. at the Longview City Hall Council Chambers located at 300 West Cotton Street in Longview, Texas. Staff conducted a question and answer period 1/2 hour prior to the start of the hearing. The close of comment period was on January 7, 1999.

## **CHAPTER 1: CONCEPT OF THE FLEXIBLE ATTAINMENT REGION APPROACH**

The Flexible Attainment Region (FAR) approach is a new concept that was developed by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in order to recognize and encourage the efforts of local areas to maintain levels of ground level ozone below the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) and thus remain in attainment of the one-hour ozone standard. The FAR was first established in Tulsa, Oklahoma in August 1995 and then in Corpus Christi, Texas in July 1996. Together with Northeast Texas, these are the only areas in the country to have FARs. The agreement allows time for the area's control program to work, similar to contingency measures in a post 1990 maintenance agreement, prior to the EPA issuing a call for a SIP revision or nonattainment redesignation. Representatives from the Northeast Texas Region, which includes Gregg, Harrison, Rusk, Smith and Upshur Counties, developed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that defines a detailed plan to improve the local air quality and formalizes each respective agency's roles and responsibilities.

The Gregg County portion of the Longview-Marshall area was previously classified as nonattainment for ozone between the years 1977-1990. Based on pre-1990 monitoring data, Gregg County was determined to be in attainment of the one-hour ozone standard when the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments were passed in 1990. In 1994 a voluntary effort was initiated in Northeast Texas to enhance public awareness and begin establishing programs to reduce emissions of ozone precursors. The Northeast Texas Air Care (NETAC) was formed as a voluntary cooperative association of local governments and industries within Gregg, Harrison, Rusk, Smith and Upshur Counties. During the summer of 1995, however, the Gregg County ambient air quality monitor recorded four exceedances of the one-hour ozone NAAQS. As a result of these exceedances EPA Region 6 indicated that one possible option would be to enter into an

MOA similar to what had been done in Tulsa, Oklahoma, establishing the Northeast Texas area as a FAR.

Because of the need for a more organized and comprehensive approach to improving air quality based on regional needs and abilities, the NETAC Policy Committee was formed in March 1996. The NETAC Policy Committee is composed of elected officials and senior management from both local government and industry in the NETAC Region and was created to coordinate and oversee the development of the FAR agreement.

## **CHAPTER 2: NORTHEAST TEXAS FAR ACTION PLAN**

### **2.1 OVERVIEW**

The Northeast Texas Action Plan includes the following components: an updated emissions inventory for the Northeast Texas region; immediate quantifiable and enforceable emissions reductions through voluntary site-specific industrial controls; immediate voluntary emissions reductions; and contingency measures for potential future one-hour ozone exceedances and violations.

### **2.2 EMISSIONS INVENTORY**

The first part of the Action Plan involves the updating of an emissions inventory for the Northeast Texas region (see appendix A). The inventory reflects 1995 emissions of reactive volatile organic compounds (VOC) and oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) from point, area, non-road mobile, on-road mobile, and biogenic sources for the region. The geographic area includes the five core counties of Gregg, Harrison, Rusk, Smith and Upshur plus the counties that fall within a 25-mile radius surrounding the core. A summary of the emissions inventory can be found in Table 1.



### **2.3 ENFORCEABLE SIP MEASURES**

The next part of the Action Plan includes quantifiable and enforceable control measures. The NETAC Policy Committee held meetings in the region with major emission sources of ozone precursors to identify potential control measures to reduce emissions that could be included in the FAR agreement. Four companies in the Northeast Texas region agreed to be subject to the implementation of enforceable emission reduction measures. These site-specific voluntary control measures include quantifiable reductions and were made enforceable through the use of signed Agreed Orders. Copies of the Agreed Orders are included in Chapter Three under the Agreed Order section. These programs are estimated to reduce VOC emissions by 2,156 tons per year and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions by 37 tons per year.

### **2.4 VOLUNTARY MEASURES**

The Action Plan also includes voluntary measures which the affected parties agreed to implement immediately to reduce emissions and/or develop programs designed to improve air quality. These voluntary emission reductions are not enforceable but were implemented in order to quickly reduce the amount of ozone precursors in the region and thus help reduce ground level ozone. The emission reductions from these voluntary measures are estimated to total 2,793 tons per year for VOCs and 1,702 tons per year for NO<sub>x</sub>. Examples of the voluntary measures are found in the FAR (Appendix B).

## **2.5 CONTINGENT MEASURES**

The final part of the Northeast Texas Action Plan consists of contingent measures. If exceedances or violations of the ozone NAAQS occur during the term of the FAR agreement, then the NETAC region will implement additional control measures. The Action Plan contains a predetermined list of contingent measures for both exceedances of the one-hour ozone NAAQS as well as for a violation of the one-hour standard. These contingent measures are similar to contingency measures in a post-1990 ozone maintenance agreement. Examples of the contingent measures are found in the FAR under Appendix B.

### **CHAPTER 3: AGREED ORDERS**

Agreed Orders were used to require certain actions by the affected companies in order to make voluntary emission reductions enforceable pursuant to the Northeast Texas FAR MOA. The Agreed Orders were presented to the commission and approved on May 28, 1997 and on June 25, 1997. The affected companies voluntarily agreed to implement controls in order to reduce emissions of ozone precursors.

Copies of the Agreed Orders are included on the following pages.







































































