

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., *Chairman*
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*
Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

September 23, 2015

Environmental Protection Agency
Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center
Mail Code: 28221T
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460-001

Re: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0468
Federal Register, Vol. 80, No. 166, August 27, 2015: Determinations of Attainment by the Attainment Date, Extensions of the Attainment Date, and Reclassification of Several Areas Classified as Marginal for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposal to grant a one-year attainment date extension for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) marginal nonattainment area for 2008 eight-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard under Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA), §181(a)(5). The TCEQ supports the EPA's proposed attainment date extension to July 20, 2016, which acknowledges that the HGB area is in compliance with all requirements and commitments pertaining to its applicable implementation plan as required under FCAA, §181(a)(5)(A). The TCEQ also supports the EPA's evaluation that certified air quality monitoring data for 2014 met the air quality requirements of FCAA, §181(a)(5)(B) and EPA's interpretation of that statutory provision in 40 Code of Federal Regulations §51.1107, which concludes that all monitors in the HGB area had a fourth highest daily maximum eight-hour average of 0.075 parts per million or less.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Steve Hagle, P.E., Deputy Director, Office of Air, at 512-239-1295 or steve.hagle@tceq.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard A. Hyde".

Richard A. Hyde, P.E.
Executive Director

cc: Mr. Guy Donaldson, EPA Region 6