# TCEQ LogoNational Comments

# Executive Review Summary

# ****TCEQ Proposed Comments On:****

Docket No. EPA-R06-OAR-2015-0117

*Federal Register*, Vol. 80 No. 158 page 49187, Determination of Attainment; Texas; Houston-Galveston-Brazoria 1997 Ozone Nonattainment Area; Determination of Attainment of the 1997 Ozone Standard

# ****Overview of Proposal:****

On August 17, 2015, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published in the *Federal Register* a proposed determination that the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria (HGB) nonattainment area is currently attaining the 1997 eight-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). This determination is based upon certified ambient air monitoring data that show the area has monitored attainment of the 1997 eight-hour ozone NAAQS for the 2012 through 2014 monitoring period and continues to monitor attainment of the NAAQS based on preliminary 2015 data. If this proposed determination is made final, the requirements for this area to submit an attainment demonstration, a reasonable further progress plan, contingency measures, and other state implementation plan documents related to attainment of the 1997 eight-hour ozone NAAQS would be suspended for so long as the HGB area continues to attain the 1997 eight-hour ozone NAAQS.

# ****Summary of Comments:****

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the EPA’s proposed determination that the HGB 1997 eight-hour ozone nonattainment area is currently attaining the 1997 ozone NAAQS via a Clean Data Determination (CDD). The TCEQ supports the EPA’s CDD, which acknowledges that the HGB area is currently attaining the 1997 eight-hour ozone standard based on the most recent three years of quality-assured monitoring data and preliminary 2015 monitoring data. The HGB area monitors have had significant decreases in their ozone values. The eight-hour ozone design value in the HGB area has decreased nearly 33% over the past 24 years, from a design value of 119 ppb in 1990 to a design value of 80 ppb in 2014. Based on the redesignation substitute demonstration submitted to the EPA on August 18, 2015,the TCEQ expects that the HGB area will continue to attain the 1997 eight-hour ozone NAAQS through 2028.

**Lead Office: Office of Air/Air Quality Division**

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**Deputy Director Approval: Steve Hagle, P.E./Office of Air**

**EPA Deadline:** September 16**, 2015**