SIP Revision: Attainment Demonstration (AD) for the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) Ozone Nonattainment Area, February 24, 1999

On February 24, 1999, the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) adopted an AD State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision for the DFW area as a result of reclassification of the area from a moderate to a serious nonattainment area for the one-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS).

Summary of the SIP Revision

Adoption Date: 02/24/1999
Proposal Date: 10/23/1998

EPA Action: Due to time constraints, the February 1999 SIP revision did not include the rules necessary to bring the DFW area into attainment by the November 1999 deadline and the commission committed to submitting a complete attainment demonstration to the EPA in the spring of 2000. As a result, the EPA issued a letter of findings that the February 1999 SIP revision was incomplete. This letter started an 18-month sanctions clock effective May 13, 1999 that could only be stopped if the state submitted the necessary rules and modeling for the attainment demonstration. The April 2000 SIP revision fulfilled those requirements.

Background and Key Changes: On February 24, 1999, the TNRCC adopted a SIP revision to address the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)’s reclassification of four counties in the DFW area from moderate to serious nonattainment for the one-hour ozone NAAQS. The EPA required a new SIP revision demonstrating attainment of the ozone NAAQS in the DFW area by November 15, 1999 and a 9% rate of progress (ROP) demonstration. This plan included reductions in motor vehicle emissions consistent with the 15% ROP and post-1996 ROP plans. The plan included an updated emissions inventory (EI), photochemical modeling, post-1996 ROP target calculations, volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) reasonably available control technology (RACT) analysis, nonattainment New Source Review (NSR) changes, and a reduction in the threshold for “major source” definitions in accordance with the area’s serious classification.

Due to the number of exceedances of the ozone standard in 1997, the area would not be able to attain the standard by its November 15, 1999 deadline. This plan stated that the area was being impacted by ozone transport and that not enough time was available to implement rules that would be necessary to reduce emissions of NOx and VOC within the DFW nonattainment area for it to attain the standard by its deadline. Instead, the TNRCC proposed submission of additional elements of the AD in the future. Analysis showed that a combination of NOx and VOC reductions would be the most effective strategy to reduce ozone in the area. The TNRCC adopted a revision to the post-1996 ROP on October 15, 1999, and updated ADs on April 19, 2000, and August 22, 2001.

SIP Narrative and Appendices

Files linked from this page are in Portable Document Format (PDF).
DFW AD SIP Revision (Project No. 1998-046-SIP-AI)

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