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SIP Revision: Victoria County (VIC) Redesignation Petition and Maintenance Plan, July 27, 1994

On July 27, 1994, the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) adopted a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision to revise the contingency plan in Victoria County.

Summary of the SIP Revision

Adoption Date: 07/27/1994

EPA Approval Date: 03/07/1995 (60 FR 12453²)

Background and Key Changes: Victoria County was originally designated as nonattainment for ozone on March 3, 1978 (43 FR 8962^{CA}), under the initial 0.08 parts per million (ppm) one-hour ozone standard set in 1971. This designation was based on six weeks of United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) contractor-collected data at two sites from September 24, 1977 – November 7, 1977. When the ozone standard was revised in 1979, the Texas Air Control Board (TACB, forerunner to the TNRCC) evaluated data from VIC, finding that it exceeded the standard once. The EPA treated areas like VIC that only had small, urbanized populations as "rural" nonattainment areas, and did not require the same kind of extensive monitoring and planning for these areas as were required for "urban" nonattainment areas like Dallas and Houston. Since the area was still technically designated a nonattainment area at the time of the passage of the 1990 Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA) amendments, despite a lack of monitoring data for the area, Victoria County was designated as an "incomplete or no data ozone nonattainment area" on November 15, 1990.

In order for the EPA to redesignate the area to attainment, the state was required to collect three consecutive years of monitoring data for VIC, ensure that the area reached attainment by November 15, 1995, and adopt a maintenance plan for the area. The area completed three consecutive years of data collection on May 2, 1994, showing no exceedances of the one-hour ozone NAAQS. The 1992 and 1993 design values were 103 parts per billion (ppb) and 102 ppb, respectively. As a result, the TNRCC prepared this maintenance plan and petition for redesignation. On May 8, 1992, the TACB adopted New Source Review (NSR) rules for VIC to control the future growth of volatile organic compound (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emissions. Except where they were needed to ensure enforceability of existing rules, reasonably available control technology (RACT) rules were not required. An emissions inventory (EI) from 1992 was included in the maintenance plan, along with three years of monitoring data. This SIP revision also quantified emissions reductions attributable to the Federal Motor Vehicle Control Program (FMVCP), Reid vapor pressure (RVP) controls, permitting programs, and RACT corrections.

The state submitted a petition to exempt VIC from NO_x controls prior to submittal of the redesignation petition and maintenance plan, and as a result, neither transportation conformity nor a motor vehicle emissions budget (MVEB) for NO_x were included in this SIP revision. The EPA approved the NO_x exemption for VIC on January 31, 1995 (60 FR 5864^G).

Texas State Implementation Plan

This SIP revision replaced the NSR permitting program required for nonattainment areas with the prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) permitting program required for maintenance areas. This SIP also committed to adopting transportation conformity rules by November 24, 1994, and committed to continued monitoring. Furthermore, it identified the VOC controls in place for Victoria, including:

- The FMVCP;
- Controls on architectural coatings;
- Small engine controls;
- Marine engine controls;
- Recreational vehicle controls;
- Consumer and commercial product controls;
- Alternatively fueled vehicle fleets;
- Hazardous organic National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) controls;
- Dry cleaner controls;
- Auto body shop controls; and
- Various permitting programs.

The SIP also committed to continue implementing the area's RVP program. Contingency measures, which would need to be adopted if the area monitored exceedances of the ozone standard, included a formal ozone advisory program, voluntary compliance measures, public information campaigns, an industrial curtailment program, Stage I gasoline controls, and submission of a more comprehensive maintenance plan.

SIP Narrative and Appendices

Files linked from this page are in Portable Document Format (PDF).

Victoria County Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan SIP Revision

- Victoria County SIP Revision
- Appendices
 - Appendix 10-a-1: EPA Guidance Documents
 - Appendix 10-a-2: Victoria County Ambient Air Monitoring Data (May 3, 1991-May 2, 1994) (Not Available)
 - Appendix 10-a-3: Victoria County NO_X Build/No Build Exemption Request (Not Available)