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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

October 26, 2023

Achille Alonzi, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division
300 E. 8th Street, Rm 826
Austin, Texas 78701

Via Email

Subject: Transportation Conformity Review and Concurrence

Dear Achille Alonzi:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the *Transportation Air Quality Conformity Report for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria Region* and supporting documents for the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update and the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) developed by the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC). The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is satisfied that all requirements are met and transportation conformity is demonstrated.

The purpose of this conformity analysis was to determine if the H-GAC's 2045 RTP update and 2023-2026 TIP are consistent with transportation conformity emissions requirements for the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria 2008 and 2015 eight-hour ozone standard nonattainment areas. The H-GAC performed nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) motor vehicle emissions budget (MVEB) tests using the 2020 MVEBs—87.69 NO_x tons per day (tpd) and 57.70 VOC tpd—adopted as part of the *Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston-Galveston-Brazoria Serious Classification Reasonable Further Progress State Implementation Plan Revision for the 2008 Eight-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard* and found adequate for transportation conformity purposes by the United States Environmental Protection Agency effective June 9, 2021 (86 FR 24717, May 10, 2001). The H-GAC demonstrated that projected on-road mobile emissions in the 2023, 2026, 2030, 2040, and 2045 analysis years were lower than the NO_x and VOC MVEBs.

Achille Alonzi
Page 2
October 26, 2023

If you have questions about our review, please contact Jamie Zech of my staff at 512-239-3935 or jamie.zech@tceq.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Donna F. Huff, Deputy Director
Air Quality Division

cc: Jose Campos, Planning Team, Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division
Melanie Magee, Infrastructure and Ozone, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
Humberto Gonzalez, Jr., P.E., TPP Division, Texas Department of Transportation
Doug Booher, ENV Division, Texas Department of Transportation
Craig Raborn, Transportation, Houston-Galveston Area Council