

Appendix B: Federal Conformity Finding on Long Range Transportation Plans

The accompanying pages include the conformity finding on the 2030 LRTPs from FHWA. For digital versions of this document, the following pdf file contains the conformity letter:

<Appendix B. PDF>



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Highway Administration
310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
October 1, 2004

IN REPLY REFER TO
HDA-NC

Mr. Lyndo Tippet, Secretary
North Carolina Department of Transportation
Post Office Box 25201
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-5201

Subject: Transportation Conformity Determination (1-hour ozone) on the Greensboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), High Point MPO, Burlington-Graham MPO and the donut area of Davidson County 2030 Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTP's) and the FY 2004 - 2010 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP's)

Dear Secretary Tippet:

We reviewed the Greensboro MPO, High Point MPO, Burlington-Graham MPO and the donut area of Davidson County Transportation Conformity Determination Reports (1-hour ozone) for the 2030 LRTP's and the FY 2004 - 2010 TIP's.


The MPO's and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) made conformity determinations on the adopted 2030 LRTP's and 2004-2010 TIP's (the TIP's are subsets of the 2030 LRTP's) on the following dates:

- Greensboro MPO on August 25, 2004
- High Point MPO on August 24, 2004
- Burlington-Graham MPO on September 13, 2004
- The NCDOT (for the donut area of Davidson County) on September 2, 2004


The FHWA and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have reviewed these documents. We have also coordinated our review with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IV and have enclosed their comments to this letter.

Based on our review and the comments provided to us by the EPA, we find that the Greensboro MPO, High Point MPO, Burlington-Graham MPO and the donut area of Davidson County 2030 LRTP's and the FY 2004 - 2010 TIP's conform to the purpose of the State Implementation Plan in accordance with 40 CFR Part 93.

Sincerely,


Hiram J. Walker
Region IV Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

Sincerely,


John F. Sullivan III, P.E.
North Carolina Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

SEP 13 2004

4APT-APB

John F. Sullivan III, P.E., Division Administrator
North Carolina Division Office
Federal Highway Administration
310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on your September 2, 2004, submittal of the "Conformity Analysis Report and Conformity Determination for the Greensboro Urban Area 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan," "Conformity Analysis Report and Conformity Determination for the High Point Urban Area 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan," and the "Emissions Analysis Report for the Transportation Plan for the Rural Portion of Davidson County." EPA Region 4 has completed its review based on the criteria and procedures of the transportation conformity rule (40 Code of Federal Regulations part 93), and recommends a finding of conformity for the Greensboro Urban Area 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), Greensboro Urban Area 2004-2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), High Point Urban Area 2030 LRTP, High Point Urban Area 2004-2010 TIP, and the 2004-2010 TIP for Davidson County.

If you or your staff have any questions or requests for additional information, please contact Matt Laurita of the EPA Region 4 staff at (404) 562-9044.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin B. Smith".

Kevin B. Smith
Acting Chief
Air Quality Modeling and
Transportation Section

cc: Laura Boothe, NCDENR
Heather Hildebrandt, NCDENR
Alex McNeil, FTA Region 4
Behshad Norowzi, NCDOT
Kimberly Hinton, NCDOT
Monica Kerr, NCDOT
Tyler Meyer, City of Greensboro
Andy Grzymiski, City of High Point



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

October 1, 2005

North Carolina Division

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-NC

Mr. Lyndo Tippet, Secretary
North Carolina Department of Transportation
Post Office Box 25201
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-5201

Dear Secretary Tippet:

We reviewed the Winston Salem Forsyth Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) 2030 LRTP, Davie County donut area projects from the FY 2006-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the FY 2006-2012 TIP Transportation Conformity Determination Report (1-hour ozone and CO).

The Winston Salem Forsyth MPO and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) made conformity determinations on the adopted 2030 LRTP and the FY 2006-2012 TIP (the FY 2006-2012 TIP is a subset of the 2030 LRTP) on the following dates:

- Winston Salem MPO on July 21, 2005
- The NCDOT (for the donut area of Davie County) on September 14, 2005

The FHWA and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have reviewed these documents. We have also coordinated our review with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 and have enclosed their comments to this letter.

Based on our review and the comments provided to us by the EPA, we find that the Winston Salem Forsyth MPO 2030 LRTP, Davie County donut area projects from the FY 2006-2012 TIP, and the FY 2006-2012 TIP conform to the purpose of the State Implementation Plan in accordance with 40 CFR Part 93.

Sincerely,

Rick Krochalis
Acting Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

Sincerely,

For John F. Sullivan III, P.E.
North Carolina Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration





REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

September 19, 2005

4APT-APB

John F. Sullivan III, P.E.
Division Administrator
North Carolina Division Office
Federal Highway Administration
310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Thank you for requesting our review of the transportation conformity determinations for the amended 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Winston-Salem Forsyth area and Davie County donut area. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 has completed its review based on the criteria and procedures of the transportation conformity rule (40 Code of Federal Regulations part 93), and recommends a finding of conformity for both the Winston-Salem Forsyth area and Davie County donut area amended 2030 LRTP and the FY 2006-2012 TIP.

Our review concluded that the five primary criteria (62 FR 43779) of the conformity rule have been met. These criteria include the following: use of the latest planning assumptions, use of the latest emissions model, use of appropriate consultation procedures, consistency with the mobile source emission budgets in the State Implementation Plan (SIP), and provisions for timely implementation of transportation control measures in the SIP.

We appreciate the opportunity to review advanced drafts of the conformity determinations for the amended 2030 LRTP and the FY 2006-2012 TIP for the Winston-Salem Urban areas. The advanced drafts facilitated our review.

If you have any questions or requests for additional information, please contact Ms. Amanetta Wood of the EPA Region 4 staff at (404) 562-9025.

Sincerely,



Lee Page
Acting Chief
Air Quality Modeling and
Transportation Section

cc: Loretta Barren, FHWA NC
Laura Boothe, NCDENR
Eddie Dancausse, FHWA NC
Heather Hildebrandt, NCDENR
Alex McNeil, FTA Region 4
Behshad Norowzi, NCDOT



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

April 5, 2006

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-NC

Mr. Lyndo Tippet
Secretary
North Carolina Department of Transportation
Post Office Box 25201
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-5201

Dear Secretary Tippet:

We reviewed the Conformity Determination Report (Triad PM 2.5 Non-attainment Area) for the Greensboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the High Point MPO, the Burlington-Graham MPO, the Winston Salem Forsyth MPO 2030 Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTPs), the FY 2006-2012 Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) and projects from the FY 2006-2012 State TIP for the county donut area of Davidson.

The Greensboro MPO, the High Point MPO, the Burlington Graham MPO, the Winston Salem Forsyth MPO made conformity determinations on their adopted 2030 LRTPs and the FY 2006-2012 TIPs (the TIPs are subsets of the 2030 LRTP) and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) made a conformity determination on projects from the FY 2006-2012 State TIP for the county donut area of Davidson on the following dates:

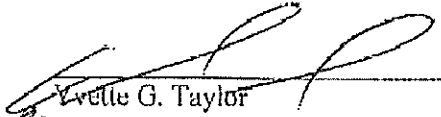
- Greensboro MPO on January 25, 2006
- High Point MPO on January 24, 2006
- Burlington Graham MPO on January 17, 2006
- Winston Salem Forsyth MPO on January 19, 2006
- The NCDOT (for the donut area of Davidson County) on January 31, 2006

The Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration have reviewed these documents. We have also coordinated our review with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 and have enclosed their comments to this letter.

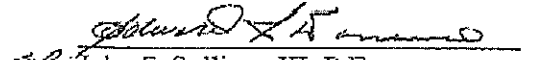


Based on our review and the comments provided to us by the EPA, we find that the Greensboro MPO, High Point MPO, Burlington Graham MPO, the Winston Salem Forsyth MPO 2030 LRTPs, the FY 2006-2012 TIPs and projects from the FY 2006-2012 State TIP for the county donut area of Davidson conform to the purpose of the State Implementation Plan (or base year emissions, in areas where no State Implementation Plan is approved or found adequate by EPA) in accordance with 40 CFR Part 93.

Sincerely,


Yvette G. Taylor
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

Sincerely,


John F. Sullivan III, P.E.
North Carolina Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
81 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1560

MAR 20 2006

4AFT-APB

John F. Sullivan III, P.E.
Division Administrator
North Carolina Division Office
Federal Highway Administration
310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

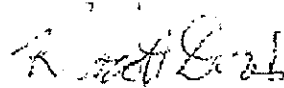
Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Thank you for requesting our review of the transportation conformity determinations for the 2030 Long Range Transportation Plans (LRTPs) and the Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIPs) for Burlington-Graham, Greensboro, High Point, Winston Salem, and the donut area of Davidson County. This conformity determination is for the PM_{2.5} standard. We have completed our review, and recommend a finding of conformity for the PM_{2.5} standard for the 2030 LRTPs and the FY 2006-2012 TIPs for Burlington-Graham, Greensboro, High Point, Winston Salem, and the donut area of Davidson County.

On August 13, 1997, and subsequently on July 1, 2004, and May 6, 2005, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published revisions related to the "Criteria and Procedures for Determining Conformity to State or Federal Implementation Plans of Transportation Plans, Programs, and Projects Funded or Approved Under Title 23 U.S.C. or the Federal Transit Act," or Transportation Conformity Rule (40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 93). These revisions outline the criteria that must be met for the 8-hour ozone and PM_{2.5} standards. EPA has reviewed the conformity determinations related to the PM_{2.5} standard for the 2030 LRTPs and the FY 2006-2012 TIPs for the Burlington-Graham, Greensboro, High Point, Winston Salem, and the donut area of Davidson County, and has concluded that all of the criteria, including those outlined in the July 1, 2004, conformity rule revision entitled, "Transportation Conformity Rule Amendments: Conformity Amendments for New 8-hour Ozone and PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Response to March 1999, Court Decision and Additional Rule Changes," (69 FR 40004), and those outlined in the May 6, 2005, conformity rule revision entitled, "Transportation Conformity Rule Amendments for the New PM_{2.5} National Ambient Air Quality Standard: PM_{2.5} Precursors," (70 FR 24280), have been met.

Thank you again for the opportunity to review the conformity determinations for the 2030 LRTPs and FY 2006-2012 TIPs for the Burlington-Graham, Greensboro, High Point, Winston Salem, and the donut area of Davidson County. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Amanetta Wood of the EPA Region 4 staff at (404) 562-9025.

Sincerely,



R. Scott Davis
Chief
Air Quality Modeling
and Transportation Section

cc: Eddie Dancausse, FHWA NC
Loretta Barren, FHWA NC
Heather Hildebrandt, NC DAQ
Alex McNeil, FTA Region 4