Air Resources Board

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
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Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

February 6, 2008

Mr. Wayne Nastri
Regional Administrator
Region 9
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Mr. Nastri:

We are preparing early progress plans for the 8-hour ozone standard for five nonattainment areas: Coachella Valley, Eastern Kern County, Antelope Valley and Western Mojave Desert, Ventura County, and Imperial County. These plans will establish transportation conformity budgets for each area.

The Air Resources Board (ARB) is scheduled to consider approval of the plans at its February 28, 2008 meeting. To ensure that the transportation planning process can continue without disruption, we are requesting that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) begin parallel processing of these plans prior to ARB's February action.

The plans, together with supporting information, were posted on our website at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/planning/planning.htm on January 29, 2008. We will inform U.S. EPA if there are any changes to the plan documents after posting to the web.

If you have any questions about this request, your staff may contact Kurt Karperos, Chief, Air Quality and Transportation Planning Branch, at (916) 322-0285.

Sincerely,

James N. Goldstene
Executive Officer

cc: See next page.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: http://www.arb.ca.gov.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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Kurt Karperos, PTSD