June 24, 2010

Dr. Alfredo Armendariz, Regional Administrator (6RA)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region VI
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Subject: Certification of SIP Elements for 1997 PM$_{2.5}$ NAAQS under Clean Air Act Sections 110(a)(1)-(2)

Dear Dr. Armendariz:

In a letter to Mr. Lawrence Starfield, Acting Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, dated April 8, 2009, Governor Brad Henry appointed me as his designee for the purpose of submitting documents to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval and incorporation into the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the State of Oklahoma.

Section 110(a)(1) and (2) of the Clean Air Act required that states revise their SIP following EPA’s 1997 promulgation of a new PM$_{2.5}$ National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). EPA issued the "Guidance on SIP Elements Required Under Sections 110(a)(1) and (2) for the 1997 8-hour Ozone and PM$_{2.5}$ National Ambient Air Quality Standards," on October 2, 2007. Under this guidance, states may certify that their existing SIPs meet the "infrastructure" elements of Section 110(a)(2), rather than submitting a revised SIP for the PM$_{2.5}$ NAAQS.

Oklahoma's SIP is codified in 40 CFR Part 52, Subpart LL. As indicated in the enclosed "Oklahoma’s PM$_{2.5}$ State Implementation Plan (SIP) Submittal Completeness Criteria Checklist," Oklahoma’s SIP meets the infrastructure obligations for the PM$_{2.5}$ standard. It is our understanding that the final results of EPA’s review of this submittal will be determined through rulemaking and will be published in the Federal Register.

This letter and its supporting documentation do not address section 110(a)(2)(I), which pertains to the nonattainment planning requirements of Title I, Part D of the Clean Air Act and is not governed by the three year SIP submission deadline under section 110(a)(I), because Oklahoma currently has no PM$_{2.5}$ nonattainment areas and no nonattainment plans due.
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Note that this submittal also does not address the 2006 24-hour PM$_{2.5}$ NAAQS. Oklahoma intends to address the 2006 PM$_{2.5}$ NAAQS in a separate submittal, which will consider EPA's "Guidance on-SIP Elements Required Under Sections 110(a)(1) and (2) for the 2006 24-hour Fine Particle (PM$_{2.5}$) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)," issued on September 25, 2009.

If you have questions, please contact Eddie Terrill, Director, Air Quality Division Department of Environmental Quality at (405) 702-4154.

Sincerely

J. D. Strong
Secretary of Environment

Enclosures

cc: Steve Thompson, Executive Director, Department of Environmental Quality
    Eddie Terrill, Director, DEQ Air Quality Division
    Guy Donaldson, Section Chief, Air Planning Section, EPA Region VI (6PD-L)
    Jeff Robinson, Section Chief, Air Permits, EPA Region VI (6PD-R)

ec: Carl Young, Air Planning Section, EPA Region VI (6PD-L)
    Carrie Paige, Air Planning Section, EPA Region VI (6PD-L)