

Jefferson County, Alabama Lead Attainment Plan
Effective Redesignation Date: 3/7/95(64 FR 17551, 1/6/95)

Background of the Plan: On January 6, 1992 the Leeds area of Jefferson County was designated nonattainment for lead. Since then, the major source of lead emissions in the area, a facility operated by International Lead Company (ILCO) has permanently closed, and monitoring data confirmed that the area was attaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for lead. Section 107(d)(3)(E) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) permits nonattainment areas that have attained the lead NAAQS to be redesignated attainment provided certain criteria are met. Consequently, the State of Alabama submitted a request to redesignate the Leeds area to attainment on July 16, 1993.

Summary of the Plan: EPA approved the State Implementation Plan (SIP) submitted by the State of Alabama through the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) for the purpose of redesignating the Leeds area of Jefferson County from nonattainment to attainment status for the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for lead. The maintenance plan was submitted by the State to satisfy the federal requirements necessary to redesignate an area from nonattainment to attainment.

Contingency Measures: As previously discussed, Leeds area had been in continuous attainment of the lead standard since the closure of the ILCO facility, and EPA believes, based on the monitored levels of lead emissions, which are well below the NAAQS, that the Leeds area would continue to remain in attainment notwithstanding the existence of continued emissions from AMCE Packaging's facility. The applicability of the State's fully approved part C PSD program which, established permitting requirements for any new sources with the potential to emit 0.6 tons per year of lead, provided adequate assurance that the NAAQS will continue to be attained during the maintenance period. The EPA did not believe any additional contingency measures are needed. The lead emissions from the ACME Packaging facility were so low that EPA did not believe it reasonable to expect that they could cause a violation of the NAAQS.

Emission Reductions: Based on 1992 data, ILCO was responsible for almost 80 percent of the lead emissions for the Leeds nonattainment area. The total lead emissions identified in the 1992 inventory from the Leeds area that remained after the ILCO shutdown are 2.63 tons per year emitted from ACME Packaging. Since the ICLO facility ceased operation and has been dismantled, the improvement in air quality resulting in attainment of the standard is permanent and enforceable.

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