



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards  
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711

25 MAR 1988

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MEMORANDUM

Air Quality Planning Branch  
U.S. EPA Region V

SUBJECT: Response to TSP SIP Revision

FROM: Robert D. Bauman, Chief *Bob*  
SO<sub>2</sub>/Particulate Matter Programs Branch (MD-15)

TO: Jesse Baskerville, Chief  
Air Programs Branch, Region III (3AM10)

On February 4, 1988, you sent me a memorandum requesting my branch's opinion on the need for a full modeling evaluation for Maryland's State implementation plan (SIP) revision relaxing the total suspended particulate (TSP) and visible emissions limitations. You asked for my response by March 4. My response has been delayed to March 18 in accordance with an agreement reached between our staffs.

In your memorandum you mentioned that the SIP revisions would apply statewide but affect only three glass melting facilities, one of which is shut down. We believe that an evaluation should be made of all three sources. The facility that is shut down must be included if it retains an operating permit or is otherwise able to resume operations under the current federally-approved SIP. It may, however, be excluded from the evaluation if it no longer has a valid permit or is zeroed out in the State's emission inventory.

As you know, use of prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) significance levels pertain to permitting new sources in attainment areas and are inconsistent with SIP demonstrations of attainment and maintenance of the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). The Clean Air Act requires that the SIP demonstrate attainment of the NAAQS and PSD increments considering the effects of all contributing sources, not just those sources that contribute above some significance level. Consequently, the point made in your memorandum about meeting the PSD significance level is not relevant. The proposal to raise the stack at Carr Lowery must comply with EPA's stack height regulations contained in 40 CFR Part 51 for increases in stack height after October 11, 1983, as well as other relevant portions of the regulations.

Finally, I want to address the State's reference to the article in the Environmental Reporter on Deputy Administrator Barnes' recommendation that EPA judge changes to State plans based on the policies in effect when the State proposed the revision to EPA. You also mentioned that your Region has not been informed of the policy change. The article in the Environmental

Reporter refers to a recommendation made to Deputy Barnes by the Task Force on changes to SIP processing, to which you contributed as an alternate member. Many of the recommendations of the Task Force have not as yet been implemented.

The EPA's policy prior to April 1985 required a demonstration that the TSP NAAQS would be maintained before an emission limit for particulate matter could be relaxed. According to your memorandum, the demonstration submitted by the State in 1985 did not show that the NAAQS would be maintained. The EPA's transition policy was announced on April 2, 1985, in the Federal Register proposal to revise SIP programs to account for revisions to the particulate matter NAAQS (50 FR 13130). The policy was reiterated on July 1, 1987, in the promulgation (52 FR 24672). The transition policy requires that the regulations in a State's existing TSP SIP remain in effect until a PM<sub>10</sub> SIP is approved by EPA. It further requires that particulate matter regulations in a State's existing TSP SIP cannot be relaxed without a demonstration that the PM<sub>10</sub> NAAQS will be attained and maintained. This SIP revision did not comply with EPA policy for relaxing emission limits for TSP and does not comply with the policy covering the transition to a PM<sub>10</sub> SIP. Therefore, we agree with the Regions' position that this SIP revision requires a full evaluation to determine if the PM<sub>10</sub> NAAQS will be maintained.

I trust that this is responsive to your concerns. If you wish to discuss this further, please contact Kenneth Woodard at 629-5351.

cc: E. Lillis  
J. Tikvart