



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VI
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202

OCT 26 1988

REPLY TO: 6T-AN

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Compilation of Most Recent, Available Five-Year Meteorological Data by Texas

FROM: James W. Yarbrough
SIP, New Source Section (6T-AN)

TO: Dean Wilson
Model Clearinghouse (MD-14)

The State of Texas wishes to update and standardize the "most recent, available" five-year meteorological data sets for major cities throughout Texas. The State proposes to purchase these data and earlier had informally proposed to me that 1982 through 1986 be used for all surface and upper air stations for which data are available in Texas.

As the attached Texas Air Control Board (TACB) letter (Attachment 1) indicates, however, Texas has learned that there are "many missing values" at two critical upper air stations for 1986. Additionally, Texas states that much critical hourly surface data have not been recorded by NCDC-Asheville for 1981. For these reasons, Texas proposes to substitute its previous meteorological data bases (1964 for short-term and composite STAR decks for a variety of years depending upon location for long-term) for 1986 data. The resulting five-year data base would be 1982-1985 plus one of its previous meteorological data bases.

The Region 6 position in this matter is that a state need not specify the same meteorological data base for different cities. Although we understand that some convenience might accrue to Texas with its suggested plan, it is still reasonable to require modeling with 1981-1985 upper air data where El Paso and Lake Charles upper air stations are applicable while requiring 1982-1986 upper air data where all the other stations apply. A similar argument can be made for the surface stations affected by missing 1981 surface data.

Therefore, Region 6 proposes the attached mix of 1982-1986 and 1981-1985 meteorological data bases. (See Attachments 2 and 3.) This proposal retains 1982-1986 as the data base in most of Texas, with 1981-1985 in far western Texas and in the southeast corner of the State. This proposal requires a minor repositioning of the TACB-drawn geographic boundary lines for mixing height stations. Additionally, Region 6 proposes that, for source modifications, the previous meteorological data bases (1964 for short-term and composite STAR decks for a variety of years depending upon location for long-term) be used in PSD modeling as well.

I would appreciate the Model Clearinghouse's review of Texas' proposal, with particular attention to the validity of the State concern for homogeneity of data bases. I would also appreciate the Clearinghouse's views about the Region 6 counterproposal.

Should you have any questions about this, please call me at FTS 255-7214.
Thank you.

Attachments

cc: John Hepola (6T-E)