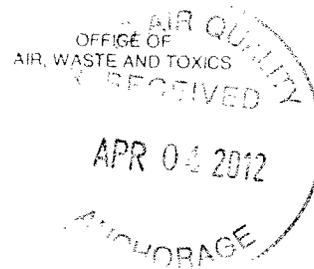




UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

APR 03 2012



Larry Hartig, Commissioner
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1800

RE: Adequacy Finding For Eagle River, Alaska PM₁₀ Limited Maintenance Plan

Dear Mr. Hartig:

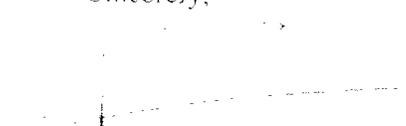
Pursuant to Section 93.118(e) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Part 93, Subpart A), the EPA has reviewed the Maintenance Plan Amendment for the Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) Maintenance Area for Anchorage, Alaska. Our review was intended to determine the adequacy of the submitted Limited Maintenance Plan for PM₁₀ for the purposes of conformity. The conformity rule spells out the technical and administrative criteria that we must use in determining adequacy of submitted State Implementation Plans, and we have determined that these criteria have been satisfied for this PM₁₀ Plan.

Therefore, we find that this PM₁₀ Plan is adequate for transportation conformity purposes. Because limited maintenance plans do not contain budgets, the adequacy review period for these maintenance plans serves to allow the public to comment on whether limited maintenance is appropriate for these areas. As a result of our adequacy finding, the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, and the U.S. Department of Transportation is not required to conduct a regional emissions analysis for conformity, however, other conformity requirements still remain such as consultation, transportation control measures, and project level analysis.

On September 10, 2010, you submitted a PM₁₀ Limited Maintenance Plan revision to the EPA. We announced receipt of this plan on the Internet and requested public comment by no later than February 27, 2012. We received no comments on the plan during that comment period. As part of our review, we also reviewed comments submitted to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation on the maintenance plan during the public hearing process. There were no adverse comments submitted during the State hearing process regarding the new Plan.

We will announce this adequacy determination in the Federal Register, but that notice will not constitute a new action or change the effect of this letter. This determination will become effective 15 days after the Federal Register announcement. If you have any questions, please contact me at (206) 553-1582, or Wayne Elson at (206) 553-1463.

Sincerely,


Richard Albright, Director
Office of Air, Waste and Toxics