



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Highway
Administration

DelMar Division

Delaware Office
300 South New Street, Suite 2101
Dover, DE 19904
(302) 734-5323

March 30, 2011

Refer to: HDA-DE

Tigist Zegeye, Executive Director
Wilmington Area Planning Council
850 Library Avenue, Suite 100
Newark, Delaware 19711

Dear Ms. Zegeye:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed a joint review of the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update and the air quality conformity analysis. The Region III office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by letters dated March 22, 2011 has determined that the New Castle County, Delaware and Cecil County, Maryland portions of the RTP meet the requirements of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) and applicable requirements.

In accordance with the CAAA and 23 CFR 450.322(l), the FHWA and the FTA must complete a joint air quality conformity determination. Based on our evaluation of the material submitted and coordination with the EPA, and with input from WILMAPCO's Air Quality Subcommittee process, we have determined that the 2040 RTP conforms with the 1990 CAAA and 40 CFR Part 93.

This positive conformity determination applies to the following areas:

- The New Castle County, DE and Cecil County, MD portions of the PA-NJ-MD-DE 8-hour ozone Nonattainment Area; and
- The New Castle County, DE portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE PM2.5 Nonattainment Area.




Furthermore, we are making the following determinations:


- Information contained in the 2040 RTP is based on a planning process that substantially meets the requirements of Title 23, USC, the Federal Transit Act, and Subparts A, B, and C of 23 CFR 450; and
- The 2040 RTP is based on a continuing, comprehensive transportation planning process carried out cooperatively by the State, Metropolitan Planning Organization, and transit operators in accordance with the provisions of 23 USC 134 and 135 and 49 USC Sections 5303-5305.

If you have any questions, please contact Anna Price, FHWA at (302) 734-2835.

Sincerely yours,



Letitia A. Thompson
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
Region III



Hassan Raza
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
DelMar Division

Enclosure

cc:

Mike Strange, Acting Director, Planning, DelDOT
Stephen Kingsberry, Director, Delaware Transit Corporation
Martin Kotsch, EPA Region 3, Philadelphia
Ryan Long, FTA Region 3, Philadelphia
Phil Wheeler, Delaware DNREC
Jim Wilkinson, MDE
Basharat Siddiqi, FHWA
Anna Price, FHWA DelMar Division
Kwame Arhin, FHWA DelMar Division
File# 723 WILMAPCO Air Quality Conformity