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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138
Carson City, Nevada 89706

Memorandum

Date: July 9, 2003
To: John B. Walker, SEC Executive Secretary
From: Adele Malone, NDEP, Bureau of Air Quality Planning
Subject: Agenda Item for September 18, 2003 SEC Hearing

BAQP is proposing to revise Nevada's State Implementation Plan (SIP) by submitting a request to U.S. EPA for redesignation of the Nevada side of the Lake Tahoe Basin to attainment status for the carbon monoxide (CO) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). EPA requires that the SIP revision undergo a public hearing process, with the requisite 30-day notice.

The Nevada side of the Lake Tahoe Basin (NvLTB) is currently designated as a "not classified" nonattainment area for the CO NAAQS. However, NvLTB has not violated the CO NAAQS since 1978. The California side of the Basin was redesignated to attainment status in 1998, and BAQP believes the Nevada side should be redesignated as well.

The Clean Air Act lists five conditions that must be met before the EPA Administrator can redesignate an area from nonattainment to attainment:

(1) The Administrator determines that the area has attained the national ambient air quality standard;

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(2) The Administrator has fully approved the applicable implementation plan for the area under section 110(k);

(3) The Administrator determines that the improvement in air quality is due to permanent and enforceable reductions in emissions resulting from implementation of the applicable implementation plan and applicable Federal air pollutant control regulations and other permanent and enforceable reductions;

(4) The Administrator has fully approved a maintenance plan for the area as meeting the requirements of section 175A; and,

(5) The State containing such area has met all requirements applicable to the area under section 110 and part D.

BAQP has prepared a redesignation request document ([see attached](#)) that provides evidence that all conditions have been met. Our monitoring program provides the required two consecutive calendar years of quality assured data demonstrating attainment of the NAAQS. And our Lake Tahoe Basin area nonattainment plan/SIP was fully approved in 1984.

The document discusses the control measures that have resulted in attainment. A limited maintenance plan is included which contains a mobile sources emissions inventory for 2001 and a contingency plan designed to prevent future violations. The contingency plan has the support of all of the agencies with air quality control responsibilities in the NvLTB: the Nevada Department of Transportation, Tahoe Metropolitan Planning Organization and Washoe County District Health Department.

BAQP has worked closely with EPA in developing the redesignation request. EPA has given preliminary approval to the request and is working on a draft of their approval for the Federal Register. We would like to give an informational presentation of the redesignation request document to the SEC at its next meeting.

cc: Jean Paul Huys – NDEP/ BAQP
Colleen Cripps – NDEP/ BAQP