

November 30, 2007

Jason Crow, Senior Planner
Sacramento Area Council of Governments
1415 L Street, 3rd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Crow,

I am pleased to submit the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District's PM_{2.5} State Implementation Plan (SIP) Preliminary Development Program application for SACOG's Air Quality Funding Program.

The air district is requesting \$354,120 in federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) funding for the two-year funding cycle. The grant would be used to help fund preliminary PM_{2.5} SIP development and associated control measures development processes. The air district will provide adequate funds from the FY 2008-2009 budget for the necessary local match.

If you have any questions regarding this application or require additional documentation, please contact Charles Anderson at (916) 874-4831 or canderson@airquality.org.

Sincerely,



Larry Greene
Air Pollution Control Officer

**Air Quality Funding Program
CMAQ Grant Project Application**

Project Title	PM _{2.5} State Implementation Plan (SIP) Preliminary Development Program
Lead Applicant	Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD)
Lead Person	Charles L. Anderson Program Coordinator, Plan Coordination 777 12 th Street, 3 rd Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 canderson@airquality.org Office: 916-874-4831 Fax: 916-874-4899
Partner Organizations	None
Grant Type	B
Air Quality Improvement Plans Funds Requested	Federal funds requested for the air district is \$354,120.
Local Match	The local Air District will match \$45,880 from the FY 2008-2009 budget.
Minimum Amount to Conduct Project	
Project Description	The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) revised the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for PM _{2.5} on October 17, 2006. The current (2004-2006) air monitoring data shows that the SMAQMD is in violation of the new standard. This SIP Preliminary Development Program will allow the Air District to start preparing the necessary information for SIP development and developing potential emission control measures. Key elements include: base year and future year emission inventory development, air quality trends evaluation, and source apportionment modeling. The Air District will also conduct public workshops to allow early participation of the SIP from the public and develop environmental documents required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Type: Category B - Air Quality Improvement Plans

Project Description:

Fine Particulate Matter, known as PM_{2.5}, is a complex mixture of small particles and liquid droplets suspended in the air and the size is less than 2.5 microns in diameter. Health studies have linked that exposure to PM_{2.5} may cause several significant health problems, such as chronic bronchitis and premature heart attacks. The major sources of PM_{2.5} in the Sacramento region are residential wood burning and road dust. The 2002 PM_{2.5} winter inventory shows that these two sources category accounts for more than 60% of total PM_{2.5} emissions in Sacramento County.

The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD/Air District) is currently designated as attainment under the old PM_{2.5} standard. However, latest scientific research show that a lower standard is necessary to further protect citizens' health and decrease premature deaths as well as hospital admissions and emergency room visits and prompting United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to revise the 65 microgram per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) PM_{2.5} standard. On October 17, 2006, the USEPA published a final rule on National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter (71 FR 61143) and lowered the 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard from 65 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The current air monitoring data shows that the Air District is in violation under the new 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ standard and very likely to be designated as nonattainment for 24-hour PM_{2.5}. The USEPA will make the final nonattainment designation by late 2008.

A nonattainment designation for PM_{2.5} will require the Air District to prepare a State Implementation Plan (SIP) three years after the nonattainment designation and achieve the air quality standard by the attainment deadline. Attainment deadline is based on the nonattainment classification. The Federal Clean Air Act (CAA) also requires that the nonattainment area meet transportation conformity and general conformity requirements. Transportation conformity requires local transportation and air quality officials to coordinate planning to ensure any transportation projects do not affect an area to achieve its air quality goals. General conformity prohibits any federal agencies to participate into any project which its emission exceeds the threshold limits for the corresponding designation.

The Air District has taken early actions to improve the air quality for PM_{2.5}. On October 25, 2007, the Air District adopted Rule 421, Mandatory Episodic Curtailment of Wood Burning Devices, which will be effective on December 1, 2008. This rule limits and discourages wood burning during Air District declared No Burn Day, Limited Burn Days, or Burn Discouraged Days. This effort shows that the Air District has a commitment towards improvement of the regional air quality before the actual designation of nonattainment.

In addition, the Air District has completed an evaluation for nonattainment area boundaries for the Sacramento region and submitted a staff report to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) on November 19, 2007. The report evaluated the nine factors identified by the USEPA

in their final rule¹ on PM_{2.5} designations and classifications published on January 5, 2005. This report may be used by the CARB for the recommendations of the nonattainment boundary to the USEPA.

Project Evaluation:

The SIP will be an up-to-date assessment of the region's PM_{2.5} status. It will outline the nature of the PM_{2.5} problem in our region, the emission inventory, air quality trends, air quality modeling, and control measures developments. This Preliminary Development Program will allow the air district to begin these analyses and provide resources for other rules development and revision.

Key elements of the PM_{2.5} SIP Preliminary Development Program include:

- 1) Assessing air quality trends through the use of advanced data analysis of ambient air concentrations and emission inventories.
- 2) Developing a base year emission inventory and future year inventory projections. These emission inventories consist of stationary, area, and mobile sources
- 3) Performing Chemical Mass Balance Receptor Model to evaluate the sources and to quantify their contributions to the pollutants measured at receptors.
- 4) Developing new control measure strategies, if necessary. This will allow the region to achieve the air quality standards.
- 5) Establishing a new Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets for PM_{2.5} as required by Transportation Conformity Rules.
- 6) Preparing Environmental Documents satisfy the requirements of California Environmental Quality Acts (CEQA).
- 7) Public outreach and hearing efforts such as workshop and public hearings. These efforts should satisfy the requirement in Federal and California Clean Air Acts.

Local Match Funding: If the PM_{2.5} SIP Preliminary Development Program is successful in securing this CMAQ grant, the SMAQMD will match the remaining 11.47% funds from the FY 2008-2009 budget.

¹ Air Quality Designations and Classifications for the Fine Particles (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (70 FR 944)

Project Funding Matrix:

Project Component	Cost	Expected Funding	Expected Source of Funding*	Level of Commitment to Funding
PM _{2.5} SIP Preliminary Development Program	\$400,000	\$45,880	SMAQMD	Local match funds for the Air District will be included in their FY 2008 -2009 budget.
		\$354,120	SACOG Air Quality Program	
Totals	\$400,000	\$400,000		

* The Air District will approve commitments for local match funding before accepting the federal funds.

Environmental Justice: Air pollution levels in our region are not associated with political, economic or racial boundaries. Currently, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District is developing a comprehensive environmental justice program, where public outreach will be a core component. As part of future plan development, staff will look for additional opportunities to reach out to lower income and ethnic minority communities, including:

- Translate of key print information and documents in Spanish.
- Place public notices and legal ads in ethnic print media.
- Secure foreign language translators, either through staff or contracts with translation firms to allow more people to learn about the PM_{2.5} SIP development processes.

