

## CHAPTER 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 1.1 Conformity Overview

Section 176(c)(4) of the Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) of 1990 requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations, for areas designated as nonattainment for the pollutant ozone, to conduct an air quality conformity analysis to ensure Metropolitan Transportation Plans (MTPs) and Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) are consistent with the region’s air quality goals. The conformity analysis estimates precursors to ozone, nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and volatile organic compounds (VOC), emissions resulting from the region’s multimodal transportation system. The analysis must demonstrate the emission totals for the North Central Texas (NCT) 10-county nonattainment area are under the approved Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets (MVEB) in the State Implementation Plan (SIP), which establishes an emissions ceiling for the regional transportation network.

On November 8, 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency published the *Adequacy Status of the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas Attainment Demonstration 8-Hour Ozone Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets for Transportation Conformity Purposes*, effective November 23, 2016.<sup>1</sup> This notice of adequacy establishes the use of the 2017 MVEBs for this Transportation Conformity demonstration. The 2017 MVEBs for the NCT 10-county nonattainment area are shown in Exhibit 1.1-1.

**Exhibit 1.1-1: MVEBs for the North Central Texas Ozone Nonattainment Area**

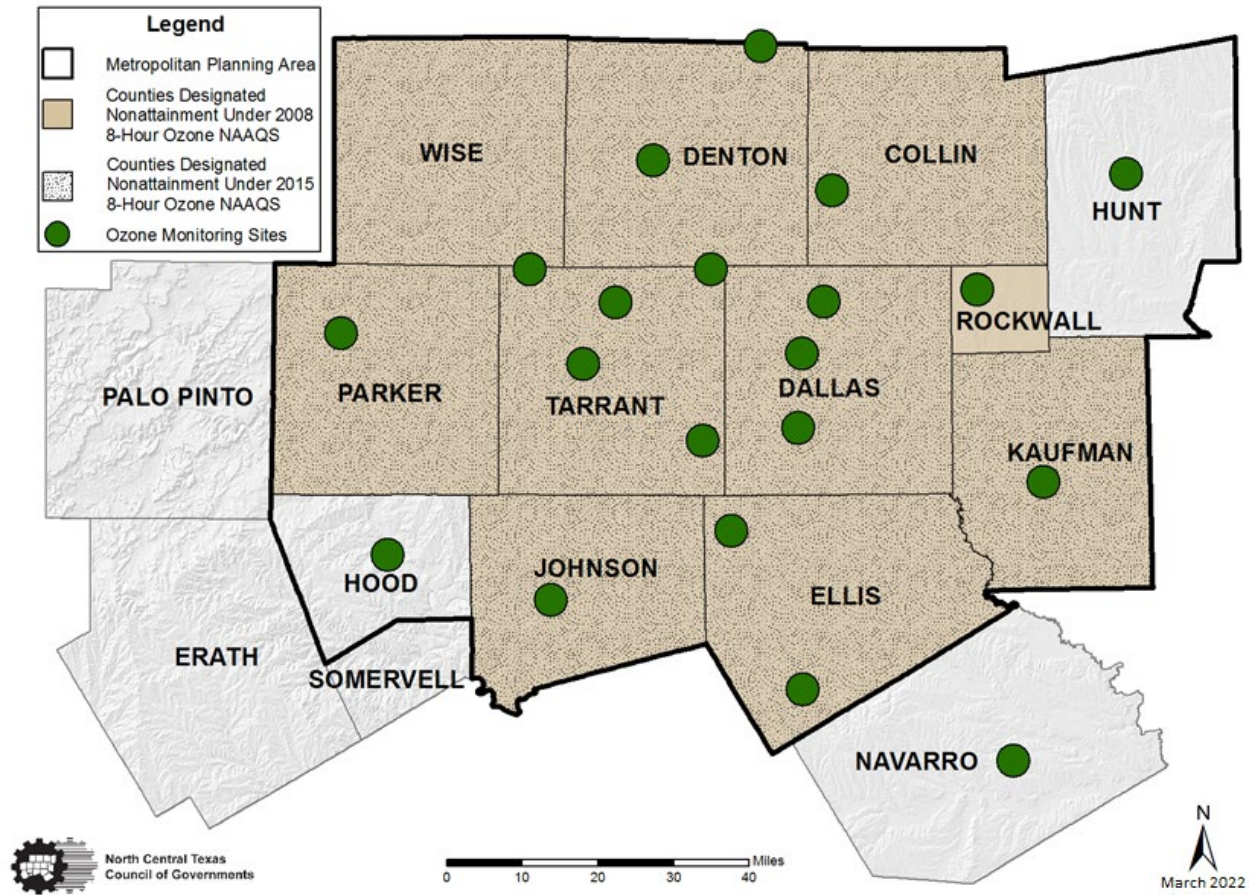
| Dallas-Fort Worth<br>Ozone Nonattainment Area             | NO <sub>x</sub><br>(tons/day) | VOC<br>(tons/day) |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>2017 10-County MVEBs<br/>(2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS)</b> | 130.77                        | 64.91             |

### 1.2 Nonattainment Area

Ten counties in NCT, Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise, are classified as serious nonattainment. These are expected to be reclassified as a severe nonattainment area for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS (≤75 parts per billion, ppb) with an attainment date of July 20, 2027 (attainment year would be 2026). Nine of those 10 DFW nonattainment counties (excluding Rockwall County) are classified as marginal nonattainment. They are expected to be reclassified as a moderate nonattainment area for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS (≤70 ppb) with an attainment date of August 03, 2024 (attainment year would be 2023). Exhibit 1.2-1 shows the nonattainment areas under both these ozone standards. The North Central Texas Council of Governments, which serves as the Dallas-Fort Worth region’s Metropolitan Planning Organization, is responsible for conducting the air quality conformity analysis to address the 2008 and 2015 ozone NAAQS. This emissions analysis for determining conformity was performed under the Code of Federal Regulations Title 40, Part §93.109(c)(2)(ii)(B). Since the 2015 8-hour ozone nonattainment area covers a smaller geographic area within the 2008 8-hour ozone nonattainment area, the approved 2017 attainment demonstration SIP MVEBs, shown in Exhibit 1.1-1, may be used to determine conformity for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS.

<sup>1</sup> [81 FR 78591](#)

**Exhibit 1.2-1: North Central Texas Nonattainment Area and Metropolitan Planning Area**



**1.3 Analysis**

This emissions analysis is being conducted to ensure the Mobility 2045 – 2022 Update and the 2023-2026 TIP meet the conformity-related requirements of the CAAA, SIP, and the final conformity rule (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 51 and 93). The analysis years for this conformity are: 2023 (the potential attainment year when the area is reclassified to moderate under the 2015 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS), 2026 (the potential attainment year when the area is reclassified to severe under the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS), 2036, and 2045 (MTP horizon year). The NO<sub>x</sub> and VOC vehicle emission results shown in Exhibit 1.3-1 demonstrate the 10-county nonattainment area meets the regional air quality conformity requirements, falling below the MVEBs for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS. The 2015 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS 9-county nonattainment area falls within the 2008 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS 10-county nonattainment area.

**Exhibit 1.3-1: Emission Results for the North Central Texas 10-County Nonattainment Area**

| Analysis Years | NO <sub>x</sub><br>(tons/day) | VOC<br>(tons/day) |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2023           | 77.62                         | 40.60             |
| 2026           | 65.79                         | 35.53             |
| 2036           | 52.24                         | 27.26             |
| 2045           | 58.71                         | 27.49             |

#### **1.4 Summary**

Results of the conformity determination demonstrate *Mobility 2045: The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for North Central Texas – 2022 Update* and the *2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program for North Central Texas* meet all transportation air quality conformity requirements of the CAAA, the air quality plan, the transportation conformity rule, and transportation conformity-related provisions contained in the United States Code, Title 42 §7506.

For additional Transportation Conformity information, refer to the Transportation Conformity document or visit the North Central Texas Council of Governments air quality website at:  
[www.nctcog.org/trans/air/conformity](http://www.nctcog.org/trans/air/conformity).

*This page intentionally left blank.*