

REGION 6 DALLAS, TX 75270

November 6, 2024

Mr. Al Alonzi Division Administrator - Texas Federal Highway Administration 300 East 8th Street, Suite 826 Austin, TX 78701

Dear Mr. Alonzi:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed 2023 transportation conformity determination documents for the 2022 update of the *Mobility 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)* and the *2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)*, submitted by the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) for interagency consultation and review. A conformity determination is necessary for the Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas (DFW) 8-hour ozone NAAQS nonattainment area due to the update, and the need to comply with the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act signed into law on November 15, 2021.

Any issues associated with the demonstration of conformity were addressed in conference calls and e-mails with the NCTCOG, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Texas Division office, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the EPA. The criteria for our review and the interagency consultation process can be found at 40 CFR Part 93, Subpart A and guidance memoranda issued by the FHWA and the EPA for transportation conformity determinations.

Based on the information submitted to the EPA and discussed during the interagency consultation process, the estimated emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) for the updated Mobility 2045 MTP and 2023-2026 TIP will be below the motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEBs) established for these pollutants in the State Implementation Plan: The 2020 NO_x and VOC MVEBs became effective on May 24, 2023 (88 FR 24693). We have no further comments and are supportive of a positive conformity finding by the FHWA for the DFW area.

I appreciate your cooperation in consulting with us and ensuring all provisions of the transportation conformity rules have been properly addressed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (214) 665-7161, or Jeff Riley of my staff at (214) 665-8542.

Sincerely,

Melanie Magee Section Supervisor, Infrastructure & Ozone Section

cc: Mr. Michael Morris, P.E. North Central Texas Council of Governments

Mr. Jose Campos Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division

Ms. Donna Huff Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Mr. Doug Booher Texas Department of Transportation, Environmental Affairs Division

Mr. Humberto Gonzalez, Jr., P.E. Texas Department of Transportation, Transportation Planning and Programming Division