



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

California Division

July 8, 2013

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 498-5001  
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In Reply Refer To:  
HDA-CA

Mr. Ted Smalley  
Executive Director  
Tulare County Association of Governments  
210 N. Church Street, Suite B  
Visalia, CA 93291

**SUBJECT:** 8-Hour Ozone Standard Conformity Determination for the Tulare County Association of Governments' 2011 RTP and 2013 FTIP, as amended

Dear Mr. Smalley:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our review of the 8-hour ozone conformity determination for the Tulare County Association of Governments' (TCAG) 2011 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and 2013 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), as amended. Effective July 20, 2012, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated areas as nonattainment for the new 8-hour ozone standard.

TCAG made the 8-hour conformity determination for the 2011 RTP and 2013 FTIP, as amended on May 20, 2013. The conformity analysis submitted to FHWA and FTA by TCAG indicates that all air quality conformity requirements have been met, including those for the 8-hour ozone standard. Additionally, the other seven metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in the San Joaquin Nonattainment Area have also provided FHWA and FTA with their positive conformity determinations for the 8-hour ozone standard. Based on our review, we find that the 2011 RTP and 2013 FTIP, as amended conform to the applicable state implementation plan (SIP) in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93. In accordance with the July 15, 2004, *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*, the FTA has concurred with this conformity determination. Additionally, this approval was made after consultation with the EPA, Region 9 office, pursuant to the Transportation Conformity Rule.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 93.102(d), this conformity determination fulfills the requirement that areas designated nonattainment for the 8-hour ozone standard complete a conformity determination by July 20, 2013. In accordance with Section 93.122(g) of the conformity rule, portions of this conformity determination relied on a previous regional emissions analysis for carbon monoxide, PM-10, and PM 2.5.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning our approval, please contact Joseph Vaughn ([Joseph.Vaughn@dot.gov](mailto:Joseph.Vaughn@dot.gov)) of the FHWA California Division office at (916) 498-5346.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Leslie T. Rogers*

Leslie T. Rogers  
Regional Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vincent P. Mammano', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

For  
Vincent P. Mammano  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration