

BEFORE THE OHIO EPA

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IN RE :  
REDESIGNATION AND :  
MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR THE :  
OHIO PORTION OF THE :  
COLUMBUS OZONE BASIC :  
NONATTAINMENT AREA; :  
DELAWARE, FAIRFIELD, :  
FRANKLIN, KNOX, LICKING, :  
AND MADISON COUNTIES. :

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Taken before Michelle K. Douridas,  
a Registered Professional Reporter and  
Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio,  
at 50 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio,  
commencing on Tuesday, December 4th, 2012, at  
3:00 p.m.

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MODERATOR MARY McCARRON

## P R O C E E D I N G S

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3           MODERATOR McCARRON: My name's Mary  
4 McCarron. I'm Public Involvement Manager for  
5 Ohio EPA and will be presiding over the hearing  
6 today.

7           Thanks for taking the time to attend the  
8 hearing.

9           The purpose of the hearing is to obtain  
10 comments from any interested person regarding  
11 Ohio EPA's proposed action.

12           The State of Ohio is requesting that  
13 U.S. EPA revise the current maintenance plan for  
14 the Columbus area, including Delaware, Fairfield,  
15 Franklin, Knox, Licking, and Madison Counties,  
16 with respect to the 1997 eight-hour ozone  
17 national ambient air quality standard.

18           Ohio EPA is now requesting a revision to  
19 the maintenance plan to update mobile emission  
20 projections and conformity budgets based on  
21 emission rates generated from U.S. EPA's latest  
22 mobile emissions model, the Motor Vehicle  
23 Emission Simulation 2010.

24           In December 2009, MOVES replaced MOBILE

1 6.2 as the U.S. EPA's official emission factor  
2 model.

3 All interested persons are entitled to  
4 attend and be represented and to present oral  
5 and/or written comments regarding the proposed  
6 action.

7 All written and oral comments received  
8 as part of the official record will be considered  
9 by the Director of Ohio EPA.

10 To be included on the official record,  
11 written comments must be received by Ohio EPA by  
12 the close of business today, December 4th, 2012.  
13 These comments may be filed with me or e-mailed  
14 to Erica Fetty.

15 All written comments submitted for the  
16 record receive the same consideration as any oral  
17 testimony given today.

18 Written statements submitted after today  
19 may be considered as time and circumstances  
20 permit but won't be part of the official record  
21 of the hearing.

22 At this time I will call on the only  
23 person in attendance to provide testimony.

24 So, Dave Celebrezze, if you'd like to,

1 provide your testimony.

2 MR. CELEBREZZE: Thank you. My name is  
3 David Celebrezze, Director of Air and Water  
4 Special Projects with the Ohio Environmental  
5 Council.

6 We appreciate this opportunity to  
7 comment.

8 The Ohio Environmental Council is a  
9 statewide, nonprofit environmental organization  
10 whose mission is to secure healthy air, land, and  
11 water for all those who call Ohio home.

12 On behalf of our over 100 environmental  
13 and conservation member organizations and  
14 thousands of members throughout the State of  
15 Ohio, the OEC respectfully submits the following  
16 comments on the proposed redesignation and  
17 maintenance plan of Central Ohio in meeting the  
18 1997 ozone standard of .08 parts per million  
19 (ppm).

20 It is our understanding that the  
21 redesignation request is based on data from the  
22 years 2006 through 2008. The data indicates that  
23 Central Ohio does meet the attainment when  
24 rounding the third digit in the parts per

1 million.

2           The highest average occurred in Franklin  
3 County at .084 parts per million, which, when  
4 rounded, is .08 parts per million; thus, meeting  
5 the standard. The OEC supports this  
6 redesignation.

7           Cars, trucks, buses, construction  
8 equipment, power plants, and manufacturing  
9 outfits are the main culprits for emitting  
10 smog-forming pollutants.

11           The formation of smog has plagued many  
12 regions of the state, including Central Ohio. It  
13 is critical that the state address ozone  
14 pollution in a way that reduces the harmful  
15 impacts of this pollution.

16           The health impacts are well documented.  
17 Some of the impacts according to U.S. EPA ozone  
18 can be:

19           Cause shortness of breath and pain when  
20 taking a deep breath;

21           aggravate lung diseases such as asthma,  
22 emphysema, and chronic bronchitis;

23           increase the frequency of asthma  
24 attacks;

1           make the lungs more susceptible to  
2           infection;

3           continue to damage the lungs even when  
4           the symptoms have disappeared.

5           When someone is affected by ozone  
6           pollution, it impacts our economy and quality of  
7           life.

8           A sick person is missing time from work  
9           or school. If it is a child, a parent may have  
10          to miss work and spend more money on medication,  
11          inhalers, or hospitalizations if the number of  
12          asthma attacks increases. This not only lowers  
13          the quality of life in Central Ohio, it impacts  
14          our economy.

15          Those at greatest risk include the most  
16          vulnerable in our society; children, the elderly,  
17          and those with breathing problems.

18          In essence, when we talk about the  
19          numbers of people directly impacted by ozone  
20          pollution, we need to realize that the actual  
21          number of people impacted directly and indirectly  
22          is much greater.

23          For every one person impacted directly,  
24          there are two, three or more people who are

1 indirectly impacted.

2 Has the Ohio EPA researched how much  
3 money it costs Central Ohio when not meeting the  
4 standard and/or during an air quality alert day  
5 or several days after an air quality alert day?

6 In additional to health impacts, ozone  
7 pollution impacts our environment. It clouds the  
8 national vistas of our parks and wildlife refuges  
9 and interrupts plant processes.

10 Ozone has the same impact on other  
11 mammals; impacts to the lung function as well as  
12 weakens the immune system.

13 It can decrease the species diversity  
14 and change nutrient and water cycles. There's  
15 nothing good about smog.

16 Moving foward: While great strides have  
17 been made over the years to improve air quality,  
18 and the OEC supports this redesignation request,  
19 the state should re-double its clean air efforts.

20 Ohio has had poor air quality for too  
21 long and it is too costly and too harmful to the  
22 public.

23 According to the Mid-Ohio Regional  
24 Planning Commission, MORPC, Central Ohio

1 experienced a total of 69 air quality alert days  
2 from 2006 to 2008. This means it is recommended  
3 that sensitive groups reduce the amount of time  
4 they spend outside during the hottest part of the  
5 day.

6 The Ohio EPA highlights several control  
7 measures and regulations. While these are good  
8 measures with actual reductions able to be  
9 demonstrated, the majority are a result of  
10 federal regulation.

11 The Ohio EPA does indicate many good  
12 contingency measures that it can pursue and we  
13 think they should.

14 Furthermore, the Kasich Administration  
15 and the state should:

16 Increase the underfunded Diesel Emission  
17 Reduction Grant program to \$100 million a year  
18 for five years;

19 adopt a no-idling law similar to the  
20 laws in Cleveland, Lakewood, and other cities in  
21 Northeast Ohio;

22 require all construction equipment  
23 working on public projects to meet Tier 4 engine  
24 standards;

1           to adopt an E-check-like program for  
2 on-road diesel trucks;  
3           reinvest in truck stop electrification;  
4           and put resources in teaming up with  
5 metropolitan planning organizations and  
6 nonprofits to educate the public on ozone  
7 pollution prevention and steps to reduce  
8 residents' exposure.

9           Are these clean air measure actions the  
10 state has looked into?

11           The Kasich Administration should do  
12 everything feasible to achieve maximum reductions  
13 in smog-forming pollutants.

14           We know that the .08 parts per million  
15 is not the most protective of public health and  
16 that medical researchers recommend a standard  
17 between .06 and .07 ppm.

18           In conclusion, the OEC supports the  
19 redesignation, but the state should not get a  
20 false sense of security, as we know newer ozone  
21 standards are here that the state needs to meet.

22           We encourage the state to adopt stronger  
23 measures to protect our environment, families,  
24 and communities.

1           Thank you again for this opportunity to  
2     comment.

3           I also have photos to submit that show  
4     diesel pollution, show an air quality alert day,  
5     and then how ozone is formed.

6           MODERATOR McCARRON:   Excellent.   Thank  
7     you, David.

8           At this time there's nobody else present  
9     to provide testimony, so we'll go off the record  
10    until 3:30.

11           (Short break in proceedings.)

12           MODERATOR McCARRON:   At this time it is  
13     3:30 and nobody else is present who would like to  
14     provide testimony, so this hearing is adjourned.

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16           Thereupon, at 3:30 on Tuesday, December  
17     4th, 2012, the hearing was concluded.

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