

requirements of the PSD program will become fully effective in the Liberty Borough area immediately upon redesignation to attainment.

b. Subpart 1 of Part D—Section 176 Conformity Provisions—The Liberty Borough area was not required to have a transportation conformity budget for PM<sub>10</sub>. It was determined that the significant causes of nonattainment in this area were emissions from steel and coke facilities in the area and not from mobile sources. The PM<sub>10</sub> emissions from public roads are less than 3% of the attainment emissions inventory for the Liberty Borough area. Because the PM<sub>10</sub> violations had been caused by industrial stationary sources and motor vehicles were not an important contributor to the nonattainment problem, for conformity purposes no additional quantitative analysis for transportation related PM<sub>10</sub> impacts is required. While Section 176 provides that a State's conformity revisions must be consistent with Federal Conformity regulations promulgated by EPA, given the nature of the area's former nonattainment problem, it is reasonable to interpret those conformity requirements as not applying for purposes of evaluating the redesignation request.

#### *C. The Improvement in Air Quality Is Due to Permanent and Enforceable Measures*

In order to redesignate an area, EPA must determine that the improvement in air quality is due to permanent and enforceable reductions in emissions resulting from implementation of the applicable implementation plan and applicable Federal air pollutant control regulations and other permanent and enforceable reductions. The Commonwealth's approved 1994 PM<sub>10</sub> SIP for the Liberty Borough area identified measures to bring the area into attainment. These measures included emission standards and operating restrictions for various sources of PM<sub>10</sub> especially steel and coke facilities. Included among the facilities that were required to implement additional controls are U.S. Steel Clairton Works (formerly USX), U.S. Steel Irvin Works, Aristech (Koppers) Chemical, and the Glassport Transportation Center. Additional emission limitations were also imposed for the coke ovens and coke oven gases at U.S. Steel Clairton Works, Irvin Works, the Edgar Thompson Works as well as LTV Steel.

In addition to the emission reductions discussed above, other reductions have occurred since the attainment demonstration inventory was prepared

and the modeled demonstration of attainment performed. The following sources of PM<sub>10</sub> emissions have shutdown: U.S. Steel Clairton Boilers 13 & 14; Duquesne Light (Orion Power), Philips (all boilers/processors); LTV Steel, Hazelwood (all boilers/processors); and McGraw Edison, Canonsburg (all boilers/processes). The additional emission reductions resulting from these shutdowns are permanent and enforceable given that any reactivation of these facilities would be subject to applicable new source review requirements.

The October 28, 2002 redesignation request demonstrates that actual enforceable emission reductions are responsible for the air quality improvement in the Liberty Borough area. EPA finds that the emission reductions due to the SIP-approved control measures and emission limitations imposed by the 1994 attainment plan and the emission reductions due to permanent and enforceable shutdowns have reduced the ambient levels of PM<sub>10</sub> such that the Liberty Borough area attained the NAAQS and continues to attain the NAAQS.

#### *D. The Maintenance Plan Satisfies Section 175A*

Section 175A of the Act sets forth the necessary elements of a maintenance plan needed for areas seeking redesignation from nonattainment to attainment. The plan must demonstrate continued attainment of the applicable NAAQS for at least 10 years after the EPA approves a redesignation to attainment. Eight years after the redesignation, a revised maintenance plan must be submitted which demonstrates attainment for the 10 years following the initial 10-year period. To address potential future NAAQS violations, the maintenance plan must contain contingency measures, with a schedule for implementation adequate to assure prompt correction of any air quality problems. Under section 175A(d) contingency provisions must include a requirement that the State will implement all control measures that were in the SIP prior to redesignation as an attainment area.

EPA is proposing to approve the maintenance plan for the Liberty Borough nonattainment area because EPA finds that the submittal meets the requirements of section 175A. The details of the maintenance plan requirements and how the submittal meets these requirements are detailed in the following paragraphs. A maintenance plan must contain the following elements:

(1) An emissions inventory reflective of PM<sub>10</sub> emissions in the monitored attainment years;

(2) A maintenance demonstration which is expected to provide adequate assurance of maintenance over the initial 10-year period;

(3) A commitment to continue monitoring in the area;

(4) A method for verifying continued attainment; and

(5) A contingency plan with specific indicators or triggers for implementation of the plan.

#### *1. Maintenance Plan Requirements*

a. Emissions Inventory—The maintenance plan includes the 1994 emission inventory used to perform the modeling demonstration of attainment and updates that inventory for 1999. Emissions declined between 1994 and 1999 in the Liberty Borough area due to the previously described shutdowns. Any future increases in emissions and/or significant changes to the stack configurations/parameters from those modeled in the attainment demonstration due to new or modifying stationary sources would be subject to new source review requirements including a demonstration that the NAAQS is protected.

b. Maintenance Demonstration—Steel and coke facilities were the main cause of nonattainment in the area. The attainment demonstration was based upon maximum allowable emission levels for stationary sources impacting the nonattainment area. The PM<sub>10</sub> emissions from public roads were less than 3% of the emission inventory therefore no conformity budget is in place for Allegheny County. Population has steadily decreased in the county since 1990 and this decline is expected to continue through 2020. Therefore, other sources of emissions related to population are expected to decline. Employment in manufacturing is expected to decrease significantly between 2002–2020. As a result of these factors, PM<sub>10</sub> emissions are expected to remain below the emission levels used to demonstrate attainment for the next 10 years and the area is expected to maintain the PM<sub>10</sub> NAAQS for the next 10 years. Moreover, as noted previously, any future increases in emissions and/or significant changes to the stack configurations/parameters from those modeled in the attainment demonstration due to new or modifying stationary sources would be subject to new source review requirements including a demonstration that the NAAQS is protected.

c. Commitment to Continue Monitoring Air Quality—The