

§ 125.8 [Removed and Reserved]

■ 13. § 125.8 is removed and reserved.

Dated: October 15, 2003.

John R. Bolton,*Under Secretary, Arms Control and International Security, Department of State.*
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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 52**

[MD146-3103; FRL-7578-1]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Modifications to the Attainment Plans for the Baltimore Area and Cecil County Portion of the Philadelphia Area To Revise the Mobile Budgets Using MOBILE6**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Final rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is approving State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions to revise the mobile budgets in the one-hour ozone attainment demonstration plans for the Baltimore nonattainment area (the Baltimore area) and the Cecil County portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton nonattainment area (the Philadelphia area). These revisions were submitted by the Maryland Department of the Environment on September 2, 2003. The intended effect of this action is to approve these SIP revisions as meeting the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This final rule is effective on November 26, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Air Protection Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103; and at the Maryland Department of the Environment, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 705, Baltimore, Maryland 21230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Martin Kotsch, (215) 814-3335, or by e-mail at Kotsch.Martin@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Background**

On July 9, 2003 (68 FR 40861), EPA published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPR) for the State of Maryland. The NPR proposed approval of revised mobile emission inventories and 2005 motor vehicle emissions budgets which have been developed using MOBILE6, an updated model for calculating mobile emissions of ozone precursors. These inventories and associated motor vehicle emissions budgets are part of the one-hour ozone attainment plans approved for the Metropolitan Baltimore nonattainment area (the Baltimore area) and the Cecil County portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton nonattainment area (the Philadelphia area). The intended effect of this action is to approve SIP revisions that will better enable the State of Maryland to continue to plan for attainment of the one-hour national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for ozone in the Baltimore area and the Cecil County portion of the Philadelphia area. This action is being taken under the Clean Air Act.

These SIP revisions were proposed under a procedure called parallel processing, whereby EPA proposes a rulemaking action concurrently with a state's procedures for amending its SIP. The state's proposed SIP revisions were submitted to EPA on May 28, 2003 by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). On July 9, 2003 (68 FR 40861), EPA proposed approval of Maryland's May 28, 2003 submittal. No comments were received during the public comment period on EPA's July 9, 2004 proposal. The MDE formally submitted the final SIP revision on September 2, 2003. That final submittal had no substantial changes from the proposed version submitted on May 28, 2003. A detailed description of Maryland's submittal and EPA's rationale for its proposed approval were presented in the July 9, 2003 notice of proposed rulemaking and will not be restated in its entirety here.

II. Summary of SIP Revisions

Maryland's September 2, 2003 SIP revisions contain revised 1990 and 2005 motor vehicle inventories and emissions budgets calculated using the MOBILE6 motor vehicle emissions model. Consistent with EPA's "Policy Guidance on the Use of MOBILE6 for SIP Development and Transportation Conformity" and "Clarification of Policy Guidance for MOBILE6 in Mid-course

Review Areas", regarding the use of MOBILE6 in SIP development, the MDE's submittal included relative reduction comparisons to show that the one-hour ozone attainment demonstration plans for both the Baltimore and Philadelphia areas continue to demonstrate attainment using revised MOBILE6 mobile vehicle emissions. The MDE's methodology for the relative reduction comparison consisted of comparing the new MOBILE6 vehicle emissions with those previously approved using MOBILE5 for the Baltimore and the Philadelphia areas' attainment plans (see October 30, 2001, 66 FR 54687) to determine if attainment will still be predicted by the established attainment dates. Specifically, the State calculated the relative reductions (expressed as percent reductions) in ozone precursors between the 1990 base year and attainment year inventories, both MOBILE5 based. These percent reductions were then compared to the percent reductions between the revised MOBILE6-based 1990 base year and attainment year inventories. These relative reduction comparisons show that the one-hour ozone attainment demonstration plans for both the Baltimore area and the Philadelphia area continue to demonstrate attainment using revised MOBILE6 mobile vehicle emissions.

III. Final Action

EPA is taking final action to approve Maryland's September 2, 2003 SIP revisions. These revisions amend the 1990 and 2005 motor vehicle emissions inventories and 2005 motor vehicle emissions budgets of the attainment demonstration plans for the Baltimore area and the Cecil County portion of the Philadelphia area using MOBILE6. In accordance with the parallel processing procedures, EPA has evaluated Maryland's final SIP revisions submitted on September 2, 2003 and finds that no substantial changes were made from the proposed SIP revisions submitted on May 28, 2003. Maryland has demonstrated that the revised one-hour attainment demonstration plans for the Baltimore and the Philadelphia areas continue to demonstrate attainment with the revised MOBILE6-based inventories and budgets. The revised mobile inventories and emissions budgets being approved for the two nonattainment areas are shown below in Tables 1 and 2 respectively.