

*North Central RPO /
Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC)*

Air Quality Conformity Determination
of the
FY 2009 – 2012 Transportation Improvement Program
and
2035 Long Range Transportation Plan
for the
Clearfield-Indiana Ozone Nonattainment Area

DRAFT

Public Comment Period:

Public Meeting:

Adoption:

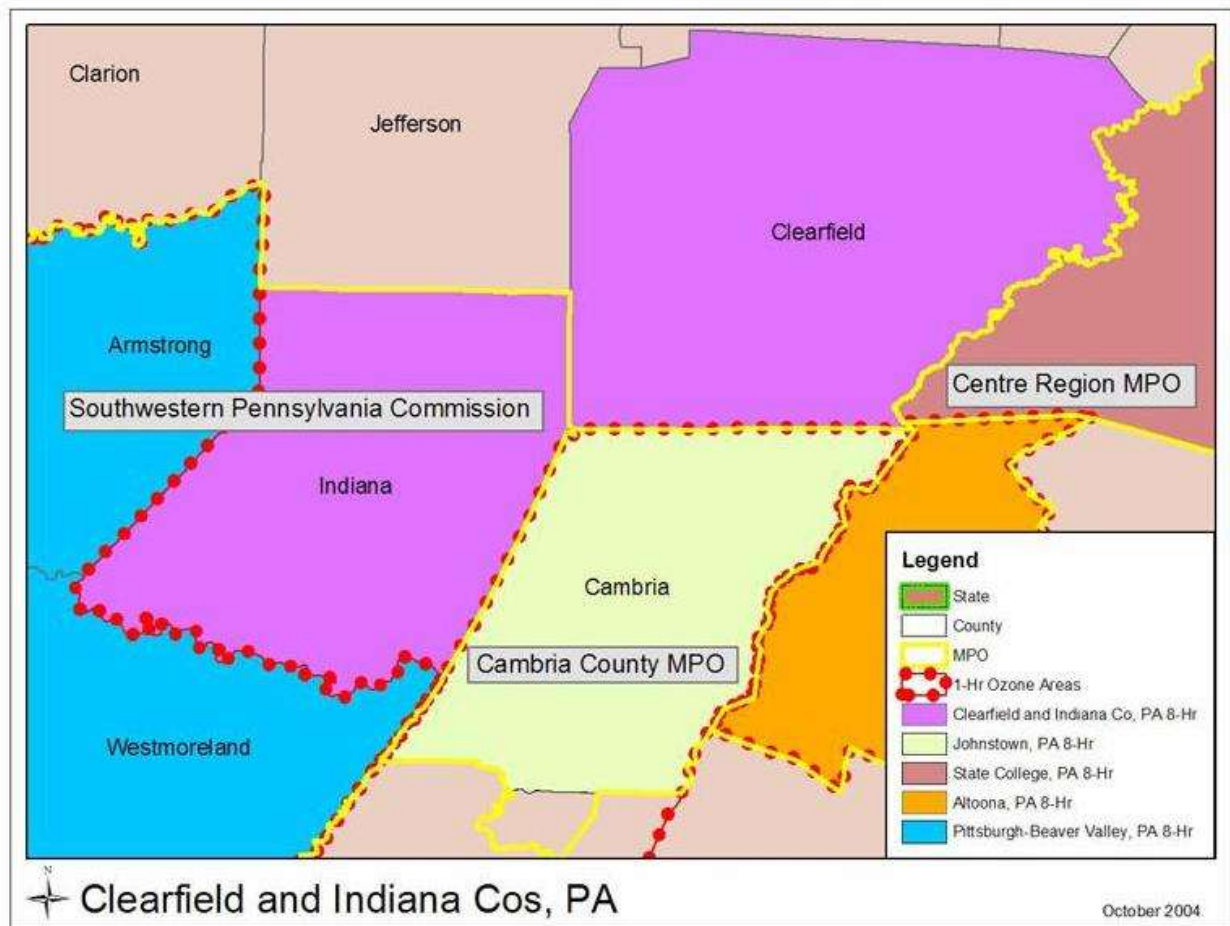
Executive Summary

The North Central RPO and the SPC MPO, which comprise the Clearfield-Indiana ozone nonattainment area, have determined that their respective regional transportation plans (LRTP) and transportation improvement plans (TIPs) conform to the requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations regarding regional transportation conformity (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93). This document demonstrates that the nonattainment area meets these requirements by providing the information from each RPO/MPO from their respective conformity analyses. Each RPO/MPO has conducted the required analysis on relevant portions of its area, and the results are compiled herein.

The Clearfield-Indiana Ozone Nonattainment Area

The Clearfield-Indiana ozone nonattainment area is shown below:

Clearfield and Indiana Counties, PA 8-hour Ozone Map



Interagency Consultation

The conformity process includes significant interaction among the many regional, state and federal agencies involved in transportation and air quality for the nonattainment area. The consultation process includes meetings, conference calls and electronic mail communications. In addition to larger group discussions encompassing broad issues applicable to multiple nonattainment areas, smaller group discussions were held to discuss issues particular to a nonattainment area.

For conformity determinations, this interagency consultation includes:

- North Central RPO
- SPC MPO
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (Central Office and Districts)
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- U.S. Department of Transportation: Federal Highway Administration ; Federal Transit Administration
- Air quality consultant staff

Meetings/Conference calls/Electronic Communications

- PA Conformity Working Group Meeting, February 7, 2008 at PENNDOT offices in Harrisburg, PA

Decisions made at these meetings included:

- Conformity documentation format
 - STIP schedule
 - Interagency consultation
- Telephone and electronic mails communications among PENNDOT, North Central RPO, SPC and consultant staff.

Discussions and decisions included:

- Conformity start date
- Public participation process and dates
- Project identification, description, and data
- Travel modeling issues
- Analysis years
- Latest planning assumptions
- Conformity test(s) to be used
- Future year vehicle assumptions
- Public participation and public comment period dates
- Method of conveying results for entire nonattainment area

Regional Emissions Test(s)

As there are no current SIPs or motor vehicle emissions budgets for ozone in this nonattainment area, the “interim period” conformity test options are available. Each nonattainment area may select from one of two emissions tests available:

- **Build/No Build Test:** Emissions for each future year under the “build” scenario (implement proposed TIP and LRP) are no greater than emissions under the “no build” scenario (do not implement proposed TIP and LRP).
- **Baseline Test:** Emissions projected for each future analysis year may be no greater than emissions in 2002 (the baseline year).

The selected interim emissions test must be used for the entire ozone nonattainment area (unless a MVEB exists). For this conformity determination, the “emissions less than baseline” test was selected through the interagency consultation process.

Components of the Regional Emissions Analysis

EPA requires that the 2 precursors to ozone (ozone is not emitted directly) from motor vehicles, volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrous oxides (NO_x)¹ be included in the regional ozone conformity determination.

¹ Absent a NO_x waiver from EPA.

Analysis Results

Tables 1 and 2 present the emissions results for VOC and NO_x, respectively, for each MPO in the nonattainment area. Emissions shown are in kg/day.

Table 1: VOC Emission Results

	2002 Base	2009	2018	2025	2035
Clearfield	5,564	3,159	1,936	1,672	1,862
Indiana	4,247	2,902	1,705	1,405	1,473
Totals	9,811	6,061	3,641	3,077	3,335
Conclusion	----	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Table 2: NO_x Emission Results

	2002 Base	2009	2018	2025	2035
Clearfield	15,869	9,705	3,963	2,617	2,267
Indiana	6,845	3,851	1,732	1,239	1,136
Totals	22,714	13,556	5,695	3,856	3,403
Conclusion	-----	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Conclusions

The region is working toward steadily improving air quality and attaining the NAAQS. The below findings carry forward the vision of the partners in the nonattainment area and their goals for improved natural and built environments, a growing economy, and an effective, interconnected, multi-modal, safe and reliable transportation system.

The emissions of VOC and NO_x in each future year are not greater than emissions in the 2002 baseline year. The analysis shows that the nonattainment area has demonstrated conformity with ozone transportation conformity rules, using the baseline 2002 conformity test during the interim period.