Section 5: Ambient Air Quality Monitoring

5.1 Attainment of the 1-Hour Ozone Standard

The Ragley monitoring site in Beauregard Parish (EPA AQS code 22 043 0001) has been in operation since 1989 and has been operated in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 58 and the EPA-approved Quality Assurance Program Plan. The NAAQS for 1-hour ozone is 120 ppb based on a 1-hour average sample. Because of rounding a 1-hour monitor reading of 125 ppb is considered an exceedance of the 1-hour ozone standard, whereas a reading of 124 ppb is considered as meeting the standard.

The Ragley site continued to monitor attainment with the 1-hour ozone NAAQS through the end of calendar year 2005. EPA revoked the 1-hour ozone standard effective June 15, 2005. The most recent three years of ozone monitoring data (2003-2005) for Beauregard Parish indicate an ozone design values of 97 ppb for 2003, 102 ppb for 2004 and 101 ppb for 2005.

5.2 Attainment of the 8-Hour Ozone Standard

The NAAQS for 8-hour ozone is 80 ppb based on the three-year average of the fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentrations measured at each monitor within an area. An 8-hour monitor reading of 85 ppb is considered an exceedance of the 8-hour ozone standard and a reading of 84 ppb is considered as meeting the standard. See Table 5-1 at the end of this section.

5.3 Request for Network Change

Considering that the Ragley site continued to monitor attainment with the 1-hour ozone standard and had monitored attainment for the 8-hour ozone standard since 1998, the state discussed a monitoring network change with EPA. The discussion was followed with a written request (letter dated December 12, 2002) for change to the monitoring network. In correspondence dated May 27, 2003, EPA responded affirmatively to plans to discontinue operation of this monitor (See Appendix C). The department had planned to dismantle the monitoring site at the end of 2005 in conjunction with renewal of the Section 175a maintenance plan under the 1-hour ozone standard.

With implementation of the 8-hour ozone standard and revocation of the 1-hour ozone standard, the state is required to address the maintenance requirements in Section 110 (a)(1) of the CAA for areas designated unclassifiable/attainment for the 8-hour ozone NAAQS, such as Beauregard Parish. According to the guidance document for section 110(a)(1) maintenance plans, "a

monitor may be unnecessary when it...has monitored attainment for the latest five complete three-year periods. This time period is necessary to confirm that several non-overlapping data periods show sustained clean air due to strategic emission reductions rather than favorable meteorology." The Ragley site meets this guidance criteria and has monitored attainment with the 8-hour ozone NAAQS since 1998. (See Table 5-1)

In conclusion, the Ragley site meets the guidance criteria and continued monitoring in the area is unnecessary. The state formally requests approval from the EPA Regional Administrator to delete the Ragley monitoring site in Beauregard Parish from the state's air quality monitoring network.

Table 5-1 Beauregard Parish

8-Hour Ozone Design Values 1998-2005

	Highest	2nd	3rd	4th	# of Days	Design Value
1998	0.087	0.087	0.083	0.082	2	0.077
1999	0.086	0.082	0.082	0.081	1	0.081
2000	0.093	0.086	0.086	0.081	3	0.081
1999	0.086	0.082	0.082	0.081	1	0.081
2000	0.093	0.086	0.086	0.081	3	0.081
2001	0.077	0.076	0.070	0.070	0	0.077
2000	0.093	0.086	0.086	0.081	3	0.081
2001	0.077	0.076	0.070	0.070	0	0.077
2002	0.084	0.077	0.076	0.073	0	0.075
2001	0.077	0.076	0.070	0.070	0	0.077
2002	0.084	0.077	0.076	0.073	0	0.075
2003	0.084	0.082	0.078	0.077	0	0.073
2002	0.084	0.077	0.076	0.073	0	0.075
2003	0.084	0.082	0.078	0.077	0	0.073
2004	0.080	0.078	0.075	0.074	0	0.075
2003	0.084	0.082	0.078	0.077	0	0.073
2004	0.080	0.078	0.075	0.074	0	0.075
2005	0.077	0.074	0.074	0.074	0	0.075