

Section 1: Introduction

1.1 Background

1.1.1 1-hour Ozone in Grant Parish

Grant Parish, Louisiana was designated under section 107 of the 1977 CAA as nonattainment with respect to ozone NAAQS on September 11, 1978. (40 CFR 81.319) In accordance with section 110 of the 1977 CAA, the state of Louisiana submitted the ozone SIP as required by part D on December 10, 1979. EPA fully approved this ozone SIP on October 29, 1981 (46 FR 53412).

On November 15, 1990, the CAA Amendments of 1990 (CAAA) were enacted (Public Law 101-549, 104 Stat. 2399, codified at 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q). The ozone nonattainment designation for Grant Parish continued by operation of law according to section 107(d)(1)(C)(i) of the CAA, as amended in 1990 (See 56 FR 56694, November 6, 1991). Since the State had not yet collected in Grant Parish the required three years of ambient air quality data necessary to petition for redesignation to attainment, the area was designated as nonattainment-incomplete data for ozone.

In order to demonstrate attainment with the 1-hour ozone NAAQS, LDEQ collected the required ambient monitoring data in Grant Parish that showed no violations of the 0.12 ppm 1-hour ozone standard; developed an ozone maintenance plan for the parish in accordance with section 175A of the CAAA; and submitted a request for redesignation to attainment and the ozone maintenance plan to EPA for approval. Although the maintenance plan and redesignation request were deemed complete by EPA, several approvability issues existed. The state addressed the issues and submitted a revised maintenance plan and redesignation request to EPA on December 12, 1994.

EPA redesignated Grant Parish as attainment with the 1-hour ozone NAAQS on August 18, 1995 (60 FR 43020) and approved the ozone maintenance plan as meeting the requirements set forth in the CAAA. On October 17, 1995, the effective date of EPA's approval, the ozone maintenance plan for Grant Parish became part of the federally enforceable SIP for Louisiana.

1.1.2 8-hour Ozone in Grant Parish

On April 15, 2004, the EPA designated and classified areas for the 8-hour ozone NAAQS (69 FR 23858, April 30, 2004). Grant Parish was designated as attainment for the 8-hour ozone NAAQS with an effective date of June 15, 2004.

1.2 Geographic Location/Parish Description

Grant Parish is located in central Louisiana and has an area of 665 square miles and the parish seat is Colfax. As of 2000, the population is 18,698, an increase of a little more than 2% from the 1990 census. It was organized in 1869 and named for U.S. President Ulysses S. Grant. Grant Parish encompasses one of the largest segments of Kisatchie National Forest. The industry is primarily forest products and agriculture, primarily soybeans, corn and cattle.

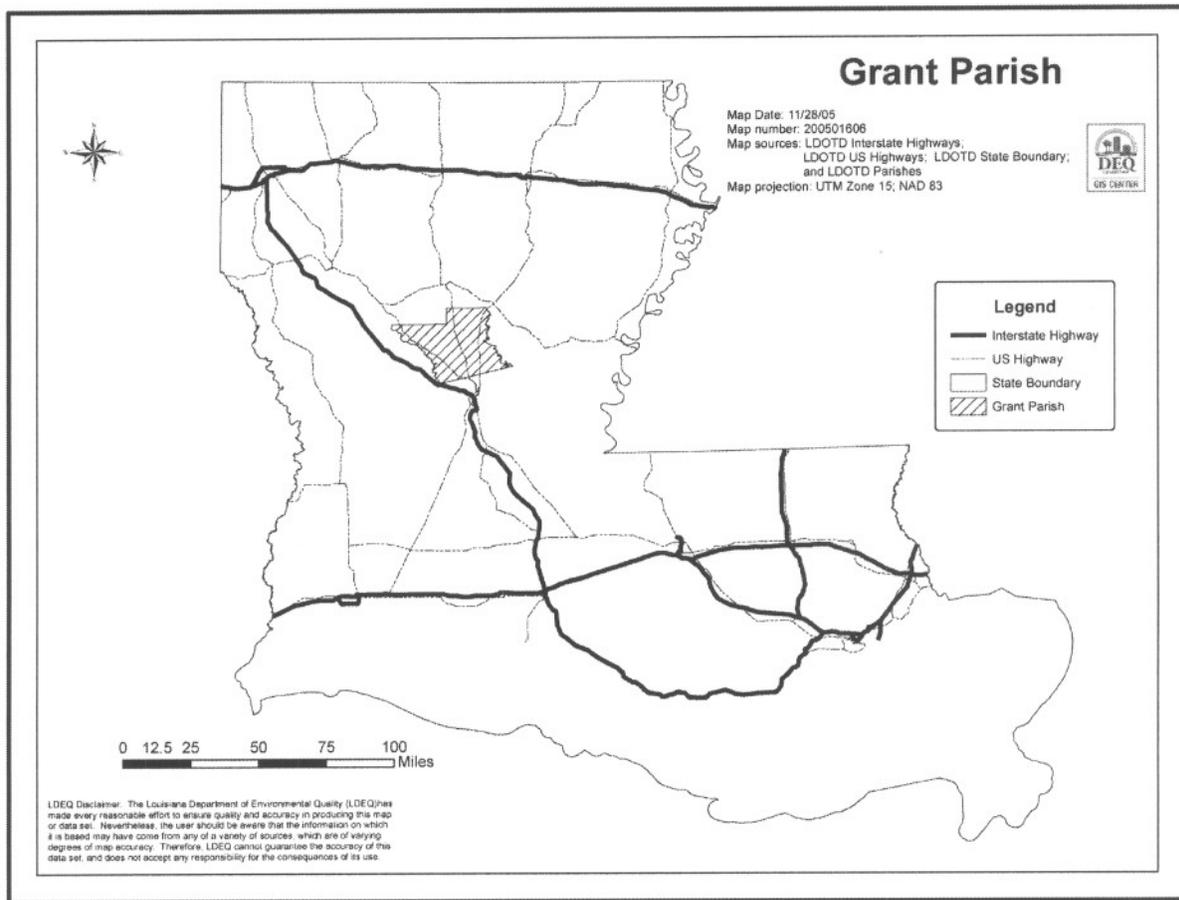


Figure 1: State Map Illustrating Grant Parish

1.3 Public Notice

In accordance with La. R.S. 49:950 et seq., and to comply with 40 CFR 51.285 Public Notification, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality published a notice seeking comment on this SIP revision in the *Louisiana Register* on June 20, 2006. A public hearing was held at 1:30 pm on July

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25, 2006, in the Galvez Building, Oliver Pollock Room C-111, 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. The comment period closed on August 1, 2006. Copies of the notices, hearing transcript, comments, comment summary and responses to comment are included in Appendix E.