



September 26, 2011

U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue
Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

ATTENTION MR. GUY DONALDSON
Via E-mail: donaldson.guy@epa.gov

REFERENCE: Docket ID No. EPA-R06-OAR-2010-0776

SUBJECT: Submittal of Comments for EPA's Proposed Rule – Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Louisiana; Baton Rouge Ozone Nonattainment Area: Redesignation to Attainment for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone Standard. Federal Register/Vol. 76, No. 168/Tuesday, August 30, 2011/Proposed Rules.

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

As you know, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) and the Baton Rouge community have worked diligently over the past two decades to improve local air quality and to achieve attainment for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone. The historical ozone monitoring data for our area chronicles the remarkable progress that has been made under some very challenging circumstances.

During these past two decades, the Baton Rouge Clean Air Coalition (BRCAC) has invested considerable time, expertise, and effort bringing together key members in industry, commerce, state and local governments, and the general public to develop and implement emission reduction strategies that have led to the achievement of attainment for the ozone NAAQS. Thus, BRCAC stakeholders are very pleased to see EPA's proposed rule for redesignation of the Baton Rouge area to attainment for the 1997 8-Hour ozone standard and wholeheartedly support EPA's proposal.

While we celebrate this success, we realize continued diligence and effort will be needed to assure maintenance of the standard. BRCAC has long been a partner in the Baton Rouge area air quality improvement efforts, and we plan to help continue the progress for healthy air for our community.

Sincerely,

Mike D. McDaniel, Ph.D.
Executive Director