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Department Of Environmental Quality Office Of Environmental Assessment Environmental Planning Division

Solicitation of Comments on Triennial Visibility Protection Report (0310Pot1)

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, has completed the triennial review of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for Visibility Protection of the Breton Wilderness Area, a chain of barrier islands approximately 30 miles off the southeast coast of Louisiana. The Wilderness Area is classified as a Class I Federal Area and is afforded visibility protection under the Clean Air Act, Part C, Section 169, and 40 CFR Part 51.

The information used in the review included: air emission inventories of sources within 100 km distance of the Class I area from both Louisiana and Mississippi; Prevention of Significant Deterioration permit reviews that require an analysis of the impact of Class I areas from proposed projects; and consultation with the Federal Land Manager (FLM), U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife Service, requesting attributable source certifications. Further consultation with the FLM on the proposed draft report is in progress. The results of the consultation will be included in the final report.

Based on the triennial review, the department has determined that the SIP is adequate for preventing impairment of visibility as required by applicable 40 CFR Part 51 requirements. At this time, no additional measures beyond the current program are necessary.

The proposed draft report, "Louisiana's Progress Toward Visibility Protection of the Breton Wilderness Area," is available for public review at the LDEQ Headquarters, Public Records Room, Room 127, 602 N. Fifth St., Baton Rouge, LA; and at the LDEQ Southeast Regional Office, 201 Evans Road, Bldg. 4, Suite 420, New Orleans, LA. The final report will be submitted to EPA on December 19, 2003, and will then be available for public review at the same locations listed above.

Written comments are due no later than 4:30 p.m. CST on Wednesday, November 26, 2003, and should be submitted to Ms. Vivian H. Aucoin, Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, P. O. Box 4314, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314 or hand-delivered to LDEQ Headquarters, 602 N. Fifth St., Sixth Floor, Baton Rouge, LA or faxed to (225) 219-3582. Questions regarding this announcement may be directed to Ms. Aucoin by telephone at (225) 219-3575.

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Assistant Secretary