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**Department of Environmental Quality  
Office of the Secretary  
Legal Affairs Division**

**Clean Air Interstate Rule Program Update  
(0602Pot1)**

On March 10, 2005, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR), which requires 28 states and the District of Columbia to revise their state implementation plans to include control measures to reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>).

Following promulgation of the final rule that was published in the *Federal Register* on May 12, 2005 (70 FR 25162), the EPA received 11 petitions for reconsideration. In response to the petitions, on November 22 and December 20, 2005, EPA granted reconsideration and requested comment on certain aspects of the CAIR rule. The rule and actions can be viewed at <http://www.epa.gov/cair/rule.html>.

On August 1, 2005, EPA proposed a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) for CAIR and corrections to the CAIR rule (70 FR 49708). EPA expects to take final action on reconsideration of all issues under reconsideration by March 15, 2006. EPA also anticipates finalizing the proposed FIP and rule amendments by that date.

The department hereby provides notice that it proposes to incorporate by reference (IBR) provisions of the federal CAIR SO<sub>2</sub> Trading Program. Formal state rulemaking will begin following EPA's finalization of rule amendments in March 2006.

Should you have any questions regarding air quality planning related to CAIR, please contact James Orgeron at (225) 219-3578, or [james.orgeron@la.gov](mailto:james.orgeron@la.gov), or Office of Environmental Assessment, Air Quality Assessment Division, Box 4314, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314.

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