

AIR QUALITY ANALYSIS

Transportation Conformity analysis is a method of determining the air quality impacts of transportation plans (TIPs, LRPs and STIPs) against baselines or budgets which are used to show that there are no increases to ozone precursors or harmful regulated emissions resulting from implementation of the plans. Under applicable National Ambient Air Quality Standards, counties which are or have been classified as non-attainment or re-designated to attainment/maintenance have continuing mandatory conformity requirements under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990.

The State of Michigan has a total of 25 counties in non-attainment areas under the 8 hour Ozone Standards published in 2004, as well as attainment/maintenance areas.

Some counties lie partially within an MPO and partially outside MPO boundaries. Each project is listed in the appropriate TIP or the non-MPO portion of the STIP. Of the 25 counties in non-attainment or attainment/maintenance areas, Allegan, Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, and Ottawa counties have projects listed in the STIP and/or appropriate MPO TIP. The following 11 counties have projects listed in the rural/non-MPO STIP: Allegan, Benzie, Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, Huron, Lapeer, Lenawee, Mason, Ottawa and Van Buren. The 14 remaining counties (Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham, Kent, Kalamazoo, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Muskegon, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne) have appropriate analysis conducted as part of the planning process for each MPO TIP and projects are included in the appropriate MPO TIP.

The projects in the Allegan county non-attainment area and the projects in the Benzie, Huron, and Mason attainment/maintenance areas are exempt from conformity analysis as determined by the appropriate inter-agency work groups. If future capacity expansion projects are amended into the STIP, then appropriate air quality conformity runs will be submitted for the STIP as needed or as determined by the Rural Task Force committees in cooperation with MDOT, FHWA, and EPA. Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, Lapeer, Lenawee, Ottawa and Van Buren counties complete and submit their conformity analysis with their respective attainment/maintenance areas. Allegan county is a non-attainment area, and conformity analysis for Allegan county is submitted with the Holland MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan.

The [Environmental Protection Agency](#)'s (EPA) new eight hour Ozone Standard requires all of Michigan's 25 counties in non-attainment to conduct the air quality conformity process. All counties covered by the STIP document were found to conform in accordance with the Michigan Conformity State Implementation Plan (SIP) and all applicable state and federal statutes, rules, and requirements.