February 12, 2014

In Reply Refer To:
(727.2)
Phoenix Non-attainment Area
Western Pinal County Non-attainment Area
Maricopa Association of Governments
Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization
Conformity Finding
HPM-AZ

Mr. Dennis Smith, Executive Director
Maricopa Association of Governments
302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85003
The Honorable Mayor Robert M. Jackson
510 East Florence Boulevard
Casa Grande, Arizona 85122

Dear Messrs. Smith and Jackson:

In accordance with the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, a conformity finding of the transportation plans and programs in a non-attainment area is required of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Based on our evaluation of the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) and Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization (SCMPO) Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) finding of conformity and related documentation submitted in your January 29, 2014 letters, in coordination with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the MPOs and the State Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration have determined that the Phoenix, Arizona and the Casa Grande, Arizona urbanized areas have met the requirements of the EPA Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93). This includes the West Pinal PM-10 and West Central Pinal PM-2.5 non-attainment areas, portions of which are located in each of the respective MPO Planning Area Boundaries as well as the Maricopa non-attainment and maintenance areas.

The West Pinal PM-10 area went into an air quality conformity lapse effective July 2, 2013 since the conformity determination for the MAG and SCMPO metropolitan long range transportation plan and transportation improvement program was not completed within 12 months of the effective date of the area’s designation.

A Finding of Conformity is hereby made with respect to the subject FY2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and 2035 Regional Transportation Plan as approved by MAG Regional Council on January 29, 2014 and the Listing of Transportation Projects as approved by the SCMPO Executive Board on January 14, 2014. A Finding of Conformity was made previously on the MAG Updated Regional Transportation Plan and Amended FY 2011-2015 TIP on July 1, 2013. This is the initial conformity finding for the SCMPO since their formal designation as an MPO on May 6, 2013.
This conformity determination is in effect until such time as a new determination is required either by new regulatory requirements, major revision of transportation plans, or a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision.

Sincerely,

Edward S. Stillings

For

Karla S. Petty
Division Administrator

cc:
Scott Omer (300B)
Leslie Rogers (FTA Region 9)
Colleen McKaughan (EPA)