Under the authority of the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, R.S. 30:2001 et seq., the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality gives notice that the Office of Environmental Compliance, Air Quality Assessment Division, will submit a revision to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) to request a termination determination of the applicability of the Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) §185, to the Baton Rouge five-parish ozone nonattainment area pursuant to guidance issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on January 5, 2010 (see memo from Stephen D. Page, Director Office of Air Planning and Standards).

The Baton Rouge five-parish ozone nonattainment area, which consists of Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Iberville, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge Parishes, was classified as severe under the now revoked one-hour ozone standard on June 23, 2003. Accordingly, the area became subject to CAAA §185, which requires states to develop and implement a fee collection rule. The one-hour ozone standard was revoked by the Environmental Protection Agency on June 15, 2004 which was prior to the attainment deadline.

Based upon monitoring data for the years 2006, 2007, and 2008, the Baton Rouge ozone nonattainment area has reached attainment with the one-hour, as well as the 1997 eight-hour, ozone standard and is therefore eligible to request a termination determination of the CAAA §185 fee collection. As such, the Department is submitting a revision to the SIP.

A public hearing will be held at 1:30 p.m. on March 30, 2010, in the Galvez Building, Oliver Pollock Conference Room, 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Interested persons are invited to attend and submit oral comments on the proposal. Should individuals with a disability need an accommodation in order to participate, please contact Vivian H. Aucoin at (225) 219-3509 or at the address listed below.

All interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning the Termination Determination of CAAA §185 Penalty Fees for the Baton Rouge area no later than 4:30 p.m., March 30, 2010, to Vivian H. Aucoin, Office of Environmental Compliance, Air Quality Assessment Division, Box 4314, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314 or to FAX (225) 219-3240 or by e-mail to vivian.aucoin@la.gov.

Herman Robinson, CPM
Executive Counsel