

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BEVIL OAKS
URGING THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
TO MAINTAIN THE MODERATE OZONE NONATTAINMENT STATUS
FOR HARDIN, JEFFERSON, AND ORANGE COUNTIES
AND PROVIDE AN ATTAINMENT DATE OF 2007**

WHEREAS, the Southeast Texas region of Hardin, Jefferson and Orange counties does not meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone and is currently classified as a "moderate" nonattainment area for ozone by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and;

WHEREAS, the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission Air Quality Advisory Committee (SETRPC AQAC) has worked to demonstrate to the EPA that ozone causing pollutants are transported into Southeast Texas from a significant upwind source, the Houston-Galveston area, and;

WHEREAS, dense smoke from uncontrolled forest fires in Mexico and Central America in 1998 was transported into the southeast Texas region demonstrating that haze and pollutants can be carried into other areas thereby affecting air quality, and;

WHEREAS, the Southeast Texas region cannot be held accountable for pollutants transported from other areas which cannot be locally controlled, and;

WHEREAS, pollutants transported into Southeast Texas from Houston-Galveston prohibits the Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange county region from reaching attainment until the Houston-Galveston area does so, and;

WHEREAS, the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) has provided agency staff and resources to prepare the aid dispersion and other technical data measuring to complete the ozone transport demonstration, and;

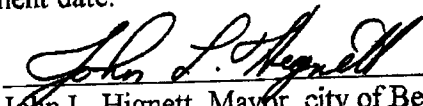
WHEREAS, under the EPA ozone transport policy which allows leniency when it can be statistically demonstrated that pollution from other areas plays a large part in ozone smog, SETRPC AQAC, in conjunction with the TORCH, has been working to develop an attainment demonstration plan, and;

WHEREAS, the EPA recently published noticed in the federal Register to reclassify the Hardin, Jefferson and Orange county region from a "moderate" to a "serious" nonattainment area for ozone, and;

WHEREAS, a reclassification to "serious" could result in additional control measures which could stifle the local economy and future economic development, and effect job growth and expansion of large and small business and industry.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED:

That upon submittal of a timely and mutually satisfactory attainment demonstration plan by the TORCH, the South East Regional Planning Commission and the city of Bevil Oaks in Jefferson county urges the EPA to maintain the "moderate" status for Hardin, Jefferson and Orange counties and provide an attainment date of 2007 to coincide with the Houston-Galveston area's attainment date.


John L. Hignett, Mayor, city of Bevil Oaks