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October 11, 2011

Gwendolyn Keyes Fleming, Esq.
Regional Administrator
US EPA Region 4
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303-8909

Re: *Amendment to the 2008 South Carolina Ozone Nonattainment Boundary Recommendations*

Dear Ms. Fleming:

On March 27, 2008, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued the revised 8-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone (73 FR 16436). Per the requirements, on March 12, 2009, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (Department) submitted the 2008 *South Carolina Ozone Nonattainment Boundary Recommendations* (Recommendations) on behalf of the Governor of South Carolina. The recommended designations were based on certified 2006 through 2008 air quality data. On September 16, 2009, the EPA announced it would reconsider the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS. However, as you know, on September 2, 2011, the White House released a statement asking the EPA to withdraw the reconsidered 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS. On September 22, 2011, EPA notified states of their intent to proceed with area designations under the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS.

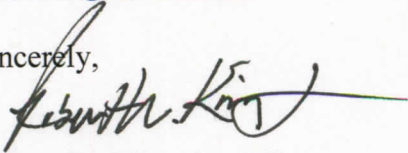
I am writing this letter today because, after review of the most recent air quality data (2009-2011) from the Department's current monitoring network, the Department is hereby updating its recommendation for the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS. States are charged with carrying out requirements of the CAA. EPA should defer to state recommendations using the most recent air quality data, which for South Carolina indicates attainment of the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS. As a result, the Department recommends that each county of the entire State of South Carolina be designated "attainment" for the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS, including York County¹. Once the air quality data for the 2011 ozone season is quality assured and validated, the Department intends to follow-up this correspondence with the required data certification letter.

¹ A portion of York County, SC was designated nonattainment (69 FR 23951) as a part of the Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC 8-hour ozone nonattainment area. On June 1, 2011, the Department submitted a redesignation request (to "attainment") and maintenance plan for the South Carolina portion of the Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC 8-hour ozone nonattainment area.

October 11, 2011

If you have any questions please contact Myra Reece at (803) 898-4102 or reecemc@dhec.sc.gov.

Sincerely,



Robert W. King, Jr., P.E.
Deputy Commissioner
Environmental Quality Control

cc: Mr. C. Earl Hunter, Commissioner, SCDHEC
Ms. Myra C. Reece, Chief, Bureau of Air Quality, SCDHEC
Ms. Beverly Banister, Deputy Regional Administrator, US EPA Region 4
Chief Bill Harris, Catawba Indian Nation
Mr. Derrick Brasington, Catawba Indian Nation
Mr. Randy Imler, Executive Director, Catawba Council of Governments
Mr. James Baker, Manager, York County
Mr. Harry Mathias, Director, EQC Region 3

cc: Congressman James E. Clyburn
Congressman Mick Mulvaney
Congressman Trey Gowdy
Congressman Joe Wilson
Congressman Jeff Duncan
Congressman Tim Scott
Senator Lindsey O. Graham
Senator Jim W. DeMint