

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

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March 10, 2009

Michelle Pirzadeh, Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA, Region 10
Regional Administrator's Office, RA-140
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Ms. Pirzadeh:

On behalf of Governor Palin, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation provides the following recommendations for designation of areas for the revised eight-hour ozone primary and secondary national ambient air quality standards (73 FR 16436, March 27, 2008). Please accept this letter as an initial designation in accordance with the requirements of Section 107(d)(A) of the Clean Air Act.

The state recommends that the Denali Borough be designated attainment for the eight-hour ozone primary and secondary national ambient air quality standards. This recommendation is based on the three most recent years (2006-2008) of mid-elevation (661 meters) ozone data collected at Denali National Park by the National Park Service (Table 1).

Table 1. Denali National Park, 3-year (2006-2008) Ozone 8-Hour Daily Maximum Averages

Year	Percent valid days	1 st Highest Daily Maximum 8-hour Average Concentration (ppm)	2 nd Highest Daily Maximum 8-hour Average Concentration (ppm)	3 rd Highest Daily Maximum 8-hour Average Concentration (ppm)	4 th Highest Daily Maximum 8-hour Average Concentration (ppm)	5 th Highest Daily Maximum 8-hour Average Concentration (ppm)
2006.....	97%	0.060	0.057	0.054	0.053	0.053
2007.....	96%	0.055	0.055	0.053	0.053	0.053
2008.....	97%*	0.076	0.072	0.069	0.068	0.067
Average.....	96%				0.058	

*Monitoring from January 1, 2008 through November 30, 2008; 2008 capture is 89% based on a 366 day monitoring period.

These data indicate that in Denali National Park the 3-year (2006-2008) average of the 4th-highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration (0.058 parts per million) is in attainment with the ozone primary and secondary national ambient air quality standards (0.075 parts per million).

The ozone monitor in Denali National Park is the only site in the state that reports ozone concentrations to the EPA database. Due to historically low ozone concentrations, the department does not currently operate any ozone monitoring within the state. As a result, there is no data with which to base a designation. As a result, the state recommends that all remaining land within the borders of the State of Alaska be designated as unclassifiable with respect to the ozone primary and secondary national ambient air quality standards. At this time, the department has no reason to believe that any of these unclassified areas are failing to meet the revised 8-hour ozone standard.

Please contact Alice Edwards, Air Quality Division Director, at (907) 465-5109 if you or your staff has any questions about Alaska's recommendations for the ozone air quality standards.

Sincerely,



Larry Hartig,
Commissioner

cc: Paul R. Anderson, Denali National Park Superintendent