

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1

1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

July 19, 2000

Governor John Rowland
Governor's Office
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Rowland:

As you know, each state has a responsibility to submit recommendations to EPA, which will allow its citizens to be informed about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. This responsibility is a vital part of the nation's clean air program. We understand that your Department of Environmental Protection has drafted recommendations which will be sent to you shortly. By this letter, we urge you to transmit those recommendations to EPA as soon as possible.

On March 28, of this year, EPA issued guidance on 8-hour ozone designations. In it we requested your recommendations by June 30, 2000 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this designation process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health and to identify nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

Again, we are aware that you are working on your recommendations and look forward to receiving your letter in the near future. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (617) 918-1000 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mindy S. Lubber".

Mindy S. Lubber, Regional Administrator

cc: Arthur J. Rocque, Jr., DEP
Carmine DiBattista, DEP

Toll Free • 1-888-372-7341

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1

1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

August 4, 2000

OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable John G. Rowland
Governor of Connecticut
Executive Chambers
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Rowland:

Thank you for your recent letter of July 21, 2000, forwarding Connecticut's recommendations on eight-hour ozone designations. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for ozone is a critical step towards providing the residents in Connecticut with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and towns. We intend to review your recommendations and work with your Department of Environmental Protection in determining final boundaries for Connecticut's nonattainment areas.

Even though EPA's new ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health, while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that people living in nonattainment areas will have clean air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together, we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the people in New England.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Richard Burkhart at (617) 918-1664 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mindy S. Lubber".

Mindy S. Lubber
Regional Administrator

cc: Arthur J. Rocque, Jr., DEP
Carmine DiBattista, DEP

Help us serve you better. If you need to call us regarding this correspondence in the future, please reference 01-0000491.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

July 19, 2000

Governor Angus King
State House Station, No. 1
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Governor King:

Maine has not yet submitted recommendations to EPA, which would allow your citizens to be informed about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. We are aware that your Department of Environmental Protection is preparing these recommendations, but want to remind you that each state has this responsibility and that it is a vital part of the nation's clean air program. By letter dated June 27, 2000, Commissioner Kirkpatrick outlined a schedule to submit a recommendation to EPA by September 30, 2000. We support the Department's effort to obtain further input on these designations, but believe that every effort should be made to give EPA a recommendation as quickly as possible.

On March 28, of this year, EPA issued guidance on 8-hour ozone designations. In it we requested your recommendations by June 30, 2000 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health, and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this designation process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making our own determinations which later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas which they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health, and to identify nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

Again, we are aware that you are working on your recommendations and look forward to receiving your letter in the near future. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (617) 918-1000 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mindy S. Lubber".

Mindy S. Lubber, Regional Administrator

cc: Martha Kirkpatrick, DEP
James Brooks, DEP



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

July 20, 2000

Governor Paul Cellucci
Governor's Office, State House
Boston, MA 02202

Dear Governor Cellucci:

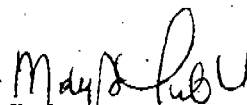
As you know, each state has a responsibility to submit recommendations to EPA, which will allow its citizens to be informed about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. This responsibility is a vital part of the nation's clean air program. We understand that a recommendation will be forthcoming from the Commonwealth shortly, and by this letter we urge you to send it as soon as possible.

On March 28, of this year, EPA issued guidance on 8-hour ozone designations. In it we requested your recommendations by June 30, 2000 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this designation process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health and to identify nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

Again, we are aware that you are working on your recommendations and look forward to receiving your letter in the near future. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (617) 918- 1000 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,


Mindy S. Lubber, Regional Administrator

cc: Robert Durand, EOE
Lauren Liss, DEP
Barbara Kwetz, DEP
Nancy Seidman, DEP



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

July 19, 2000

Governor Jeanne Shaheen
Office of the Governor
Concord, NH 03302

Dear Governor Shaheen:

As you know, each state has a responsibility to submit recommendations to EPA, which will allow its citizens to be informed about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. This responsibility is a vital part of the nation's clean air program. We understand that your Department of Environmental Services has drafted recommendations which will be sent to you shortly. By this letter, we urge you to send these recommendations to EPA as soon as possible.

On March 28, of this year, EPA issued guidance on 8-hour ozone designations. In it we requested your recommendations by June 30, 2000 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this designation process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making our own determinations later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health, and to identify nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

Again, we are aware that you are working on your recommendations and look forward to receiving your letter in the near future. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (617) 918- 1000 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mindy S. Lubber".

Mindy S. Lubber, Regional Administrator

cc: Robert Varney, DES
Ken Colburn, DES



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1

1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

July 19, 2000

Governor Lincoln Almond
Office of the Governor
Providence, RI 02908

Dear Governor Almond:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding Rhode Island's recommendations, allowing your citizens to be informed about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step towards providing the citizens in Rhode Island with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas.

Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999 D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your state.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (617) 918-1000 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mindy S. Lubber".

Mindy S. Lubber, Regional Administrator

cc: Jan Reitsma, DEM
Stephen Majkut, DEM

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 1

1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

July 19, 2000

Governor Howard Dean
Office of the Governor
Montpelier, VT 05676

Dear Governor Dean:

In August, 1999, Vermont submitted recommendations to EPA about whether there are areas in Vermont where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Each state has the responsibility to forward such recommendations to EPA, and this responsibility is a vital part of the nation's clean air program. We understand that your Department of Environmental Conservation has drafted further recommendations based on more recent air quality information, which will be sent to you shortly. By this letter, we urge that these recommendations be sent as soon as possible.

On March 28, of this year, EPA issued guidance on 8-hour ozone designations. In it we requested your recommendations by June 30, 2000 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health, and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this designation process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health and to identify nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

Again, we are aware that your State is working on recommendations and we look forward to receiving Vermont's letter in the near future. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (617) 918- 1000 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mindy S. Lubber".

Mindy S. Lubber, Regional Administrator

cc: Canute Dalmasse, Commissioner- DEC
John Kassel, Secretary- ANR
Richard Valentinetti, APCD -DEC

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
 REGION 2
 290 BROADWAY
 NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

JUL 19 2000

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

of pages ▶

To	SHARON Reinders	From	Henry Feingersh
Dept./Agency		Phone #	
Fax #	919-541-0824	Fax #	
NSN 7540-01-317-7368		5099-101 GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION	

Governor Christine Todd Whitman
 State House
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Governor Whitman:

We are aware that New Jersey is working on its recommendations to inform its citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health, but has not yet submitted them to EPA.

On March 28, 2000, EPA issued guidance on designations for the eight-hour ozone standard. The guidance requested your state's recommendations by June 30 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health and to identify nearby areas which contribute to these problems. As you know, a failure to recommend and identify areas with these high pollution levels would deprive their citizens of crucial information about the quality of the air they breathe. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

We look forward to receiving your letter in the near future. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 212-637-5000 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Jeanne M. Fox
 Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Robert C. Shinn, Jr,
Commissioner
New Jersey Department of
Environmental Protection
401 East State Street- P.O. Box 418
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

bcc: R. Borsellino
W. Baker
R. Werner
J. Scitz, OAQPS
L. Wegman, OAQPS



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

JUL 19 2000

Governor George E. Pataki
State Capitol
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Pataki:

We are aware that New York is working on its recommendations to inform its citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health, but has not yet submitted them to EPA.

On March 28, 2000, EPA issued guidance on designations for the eight-hour ozone standard. The guidance requested your state's recommendations by June 30 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health and to identify nearby areas which contribute to these problems. As you know, a failure to recommend and identify areas with these high pollution levels would deprive their citizens of crucial information about the quality of the air they breathe. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

We look forward to receiving your letter which we understand will be sent today. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 212-637-5000 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jeanne M. Fox in black ink.

Jeanne M. Fox
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. John P. Cahill
Commissioner
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
50 Wolf Road
Albany, New York 12233-1010

bcc: R. Borsellino
W. Baker
R. Werner
J. Seitz, OAQPS
L. Wegman, OAQPS



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Mayor Anthony A. Williams
District of Columbia
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20001

JUL 19 2000

Dear Mayor Williams:

On March 28 of this year, EPA issued guidance to the states on designations for the new ozone smog standard and in it requested your recommendation by June 30 for the District of Columbia. We understand that you are relying on your previous letter, sent to us in June 1999, that recommended the District as a nonattainment area for smog. This recommendation was confirmed in a recent letter received by Mr. Donald Wambsgans, Program Manager for the Department of Health's Air Quality Division.

Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999 D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in the District of Columbia.

Thank you for your recommendation. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step toward providing your citizens with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their city. We intend to carefully review your recommendation and will work with you in determining the final boundaries of the nonattainment area for the District of Columbia.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (215) 814-2900 or Judith M. Katz, Director of the Air Protection Division at (215) 814-2654.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradley M. Campbell", is written over the typed name.

Bradley M. Campbell
Regional Administrator

cc: Theodore J. Gordon, Senior Deputy Director of Operations, Department of Health



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

JUL 19 2000

Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Governor of Delaware
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Governor Carper:

We are aware that your state is working on its recommendations to inform your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health, but that you have not yet submitted them to EPA. On March 28 of this year, EPA issued guidance to the states on ozone designations and in it requested your recommendations by June 30 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health, as well as nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Failure to recommend and identify areas with these high pollution levels deprives the citizens of your state crucial information about the quality of the air they breathe. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

We look forward to receiving your recommendation letter in the near future. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (215) 814-2900 or Judith M. Katz, Director of the Air Protection Division at (215) 814-2654.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bradley M. Campbell".

Bradley M. Campbell
Regional Administrator

cc: Nicholas A. Di Pasquale, Secretary, Delaware Department of Natural Resources



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

AUG 3 2000

Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Governor of Delaware
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Governor Carper:

Thank you for your July 14, 2000 letter forwarding your recommendations on the designation status of areas in Delaware for the new ozone smog health standard. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step toward providing the citizens in your state with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas.

Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999 D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in Delaware.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Mr. Shawn Garvin, Delaware Liaison Officer, at 215-814-2998.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradley M. Campbell".

Bradley M. Campbell
Regional Administrator

cc: Nicholas A. Di Pasquale, Secretary, Delaware Department of Natural Resources



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

JUL 19 2000

Honorable Parris Glendening
Governor of Maryland
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor Glendening:

We are aware that your state is working on its recommendations to inform your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health, but that you have not yet submitted them to EPA. On March 28 of this year, EPA issued guidance to the states on ozone designations and in it requested your recommendations by June 30 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health, as well as nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Failure to recommend and identify areas with these high pollution levels deprives the citizens of your state crucial information about the quality of the air they breathe. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

We look forward to receiving your recommendation letter in the near future. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (215) 814-2900 or Judith M. Katz, Director of the Air Protection Division at (215) 814-2654.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bradley M. Campbell".

Bradley M. Campbell
Regional Administrator

cc: Jane T. Nishida, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

JUL 19 2000

Honorable Thomas Ridge
Governor of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Ridge:

We are aware that your state is working on its recommendations to inform your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health, but that you have not yet submitted them to EPA. On March 28 of this year, EPA issued guidance to the states on ozone designations and in it requested your recommendations by June 30 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health, as well as nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Failure to recommend and identify areas with these high pollution levels deprives the citizens of your state crucial information about the quality of the air they breathe. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

We know that you are in the process of completing a public comment period on your proposed recommendations. We look forward to receiving your letter in the near future and urge you to send us your recommendations as soon as the public process has been completed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (215) 814-2900 or Judith M. Katz, Director of the Air Protection Division at (215) 814-2654.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. M. Campbell".

Bradley M. Campbell
Regional Administrator

cc: James M. Seif, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

JUL 19 2000

Honorable James S. Gilmore, III
Governor of Virginia
Office of the Governor
State Capitol, 3rd Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Governor Gilmore:

Thank you for your recent recommendations, forwarded to us by Secretary John Paul Woodley, which inform citizens in your state about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step toward providing the citizens in your state with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas.

Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999 D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your state.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (215) 814-2900 or Judith M. Katz, Director of the Air Protection Division at (215) 814-2654.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradley M. Campbell".

Bradley M. Campbell
Regional Administrator

cc: John Paul Woodley, Jr., Secretary of Natural Resources
Dennis H. Treacy, Director, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

JUL 19 2000

Honorable Cecil H. Underwood
Governor of West Virginia
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Underwood:

Thank you for your recent recommendations, forwarded to us by Division of Environmental Protection Director Michael Castle, which inform citizens in your state about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step toward providing the citizens in your state with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas.

Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999 D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your state.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (215) 814-2900 or Judith M. Katz, Director of the Air Protection Division at (215) 814-2654.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bradley M. Campbell".

Bradley M. Campbell
Regional Administrator

cc: Michael C. Castle, Director, West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUL 19 2000

4APT-APB

Honorable Don Siegelman
Governor of Alabama
State Capitol
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Governor Siegelman:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your State's recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for ozone is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your State with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas. We intend to discuss designation issues with your staff over the next several weeks.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your State.

If I may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Winston Smith at (404) 562-9077.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Hankinson, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

John H. Hankinson, Jr.
Regional Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUL 19 2000

4APT-APB

David B. Struhs, Secretary
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

Dear Mr. Struhs:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your State's recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for ozone is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your State with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas. We intend to discuss designation issues with your staff over the next several weeks.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your State.

If I may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Winston Smith at (404) 562-9077.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Hankinson, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

John H. Hankinson, Jr.
Regional Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
81 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUL 19 2000

4APT-APB

Honorable Roy E. Barnes
Governor of Georgia
203 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Governor Barnes:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your State's recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for ozone is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your State with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas. We intend to discuss designation issues with your staff over the next several weeks.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your State.

If I may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Winston Smith at (404) 562-9077.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Hankinson, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

John H. Hankinson, Jr.
Regional Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUL 19 2000

4APT-APB

Honorable Paul E. Patton
Governor of Kentucky
State Capitol
700 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Governor Patton:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your recommendations for the Commonwealth of Kentucky informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for ozone is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your Commonwealth with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas. We note that your recommendations did not identify as nonattainment all counties monitoring violations of the 8-hour standard. We intend to discuss designation issues with your staff over the next several weeks.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your Commonwealth.

If I may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Winston Smith at (404) 562-9077.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Hankinson, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

John H. Hankinson, Jr.
Regional Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUL 19 2000

4APT-APB

Honorable Ronnie Musgrove
Governor of Mississippi
State Capitol
P.O. Box 139
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Dear Governor Musgrove:

We are concerned with your decision to avoid the important role of informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Each state has this responsibility and it is a vital part of the nation's clean air program.

On March 28, of this year, EPA requested your recommendations on areas where ozone exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health or nearby areas that contribute to these problems so that we can make such important information available to the public. Ozone at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma. By failing to recommend and identify areas with these high pollution levels, citizens of Mississippi may not be fully informed about the quality of the air they breathe.

I would ask that you reconsider your response and take the opportunity now to provide this important analysis and advice. If I may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Winston Smith at (404) 562-9077.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Hankinson, Jr.", written over a large, stylized flourish.

John H. Hankinson, Jr.
Regional Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUL 19 2000

4APT-APB

Bill Holman, Secretary
North Carolina Department of Environment
and Natural Resources
512 N. Salisbury St.
Raleigh, NC 27611-7687

Dear Mr. Holman:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your State's recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for ozone is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your State with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas. We intend to discuss designation issues with your staff over the next several weeks.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your State.

If I may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Winston Smith at (404) 562-9077.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Hankinson, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

John H. Hankinson, Jr.
Regional Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUL 19 2000

4APT-APB

Honorable Jim Hodges
Governor of South Carolina
State Capitol
P.O. Box 1182
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Governor Hodges:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your State's recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for ozone is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your State with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas. Your letter failed to identify as nonattainment all counties that have violated the 8-hour ozone standard. Additionally, your letter recommended only portions of counties with violating monitors and requested that the interstate areas be designated nonattainment separately from the areas in adjacent states. We would like to discuss these issues with your staff.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your State.

If I may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Winston Smith at (404) 562-9077.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Hankinson, Jr.", written over a printed name and title.

John H. Hankinson, Jr.
Regional Administrator



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUL 19 2000

4APT-APB

Honorable Don Sundquist
Governor of Tennessee
State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243-0001

Dear Governor Sundquist:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your State's recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for ozone is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your State with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas. We intend to discuss designation issues with your staff over the next several weeks.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your State.

If I may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Winston Smith at (404) 562-9077.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Hankinson, Jr.", written over a vertical line.

John H. Hankinson, Jr.
Regional Administrator

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590**JUL 20 2000**

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

R-19J

Honorable George H. Ryan
Governor of Illinois
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Governor Ryan:

Thank you for your recent letter dated June 30, 2000, forwarding your State's recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your State with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas.

We note that your recommendations did not identify Jersey County as nonattainment although Jersey County is monitoring a violation of the 8-hour standard. Also, we note that your recommendations have not identified as nonattainment all the counties in the Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs) or Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). We will be reviewing the supporting data you have submitted and we would like to discuss these recommendations with your staff before we complete the designation process.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

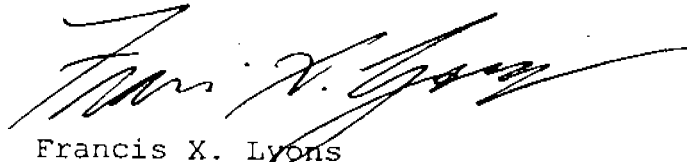
As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as

2

quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your State.

The EPA looks forward to working with Illinois in the coming months on designating areas for the ozone air quality standards. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or Cheryl Newton, Deputy Director, Air and Radiation Division, at (312) 353-2212.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis X. Lyons", written in a cursive style.

Francis X. Lyons
Regional Administrator

3

cc: Thomas V. Skinner, Director
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JUL 20 2000

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

R-19J

Honorable Frank O'Bannon
Governor of Indiana
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2797

Dear Governor O'Bannon:

Thank you for your recent letter sent by Commissioner Kaplan dated June 30, 2000, forwarding your State's recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your State with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas.

We note that your recommendations have not identified as nonattainment all the counties in the Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs) or Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). We will be reviewing the supporting data you have submitted and we would like to discuss these recommendations with your staff before we complete the designation process.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to

2

the citizens in your State.

The EPA looks forward to working with Indiana in the coming months on designating areas for the ozone air quality standards. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or Bharat Mathur, Director, Air and Radiation Division, at (312) 353-2212.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Francis X. Lyons". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Francis X. Lyons
Regional Administrator

3

cc: Lori Kaplan, Commissioner
Indiana Department of Environmental Management



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JUL 20 2000

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

R-19J

Honorable John Engler
Governor of Michigan
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Engler:

Thank you for your letter dated June 29, 2000. We are concerned, however, with your decision to avoid the important role of informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Each State has this responsibility and it is a vital part of the nation's clean air program.

On March 28, of this year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued guidance on the 8-hour ozone designations and in it requested your recommendations on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health and to identify nearby areas that contribute to these problems so that we can make such important information available to the public. The June 29, 2000, letter from Russell Harding, Director of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality, failed to identify nonattainment areas in Michigan (i.e. areas that have violated the 8-hour ozone standard or nearby counties that contribute to violations). We are available to discuss any questions you may have on this matter at any time.

By failing to recommend and identify areas with these high pollution levels, you are denying the citizens of Michigan crucial information about the quality of the air they breathe.

2

Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

I would ask that you reconsider your response and take the opportunity now to provide this important analysis and advice. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or Bharat Mathur, Director, Air and Radiation Division, at (312) 353-2212.

Sincerely,



Francis X. Lyons
Regional Administrator

3

cc: Russell J. Harding, Director
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Dennis Drake, Division Chief
Air Quality Division
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590**JUL 20 2000**

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

R-19J

Honorable Jesse Ventura
Governor of Minnesota
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Governor Ventura:

Thank you for the June 29, 2000, letter from Karen Studders, Commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, forwarding your State's recommendations regarding air quality designations with respect to the national health based standard for ozone, a major constituent of smog. Your letter is an important step towards providing citizens in your State with critical information about air pollution levels in their community. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and work with you as necessary in determining final designations.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your State.

2

The EPA looks forward to working with Minnesota in the coming months on designating areas for the ozone air quality standards. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or Bharat Mathur, Director, Air and Radiation Division, at (312) 353-2212.

Sincerely,



Francis X. Lyons.
Regional Administrator

3

cc: Karen A. Studders, Commissioner
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

David Thornton, Manager
Major Facilities
Policy and Planning Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD

CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JUL 20 2000

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

R-19J

Honorable Bob Taft
Governor of Ohio
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6177

Dear Governor Taft:

Your State has not yet submitted recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Each State has this responsibility and it is a vital part of the nation's clean air program.


On March 28 of this year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued guidance and requested your recommendations by June 30 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that exceed the standards and thus are not protective of public health. Governors are also to identify nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Failure to recommend and identify areas with these high pollution levels deprives the citizens of your state crucial information about the quality of the air they breathe. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

2

We look forward to receiving a letter recommending designations. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or Bharat Mathur, Director, Air and Radiation Division, at (312) 353-2212.

Sincerely,



Francis X. Lyons
Regional Administrator

3

cc: Christopher Jones, Director
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD

CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JUL 20 2000

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

R-19J

Honorable Tommy G. Thompson
Governor of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Dear Governor Thompson:

We would like to thank you for your June 30, 2000, letter. We are concerned, however, with your decision to avoid the important role of making recommendations on nonattainment designations. Each State has this responsibility and it is a vital part of the nation's clean air program.

On March 28, of this year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued guidance on 8-hour ozone designations and in it requested your recommendations on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

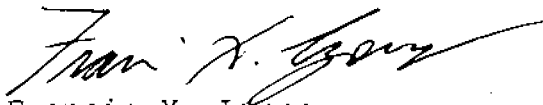
One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health and to identify nearby areas that contribute to these problems so that we can make such important information available to the public. Your June 30, 2000, letter failed to identify nonattainment areas in Wisconsin (i.e. areas that have violated the 8-hour ozone standard or nearby counties that contribute to violations). We are available to discuss any questions you may have on this matter at any time.

2

By failing to recommend and identify areas with these high pollution levels, you are denying the citizens of Wisconsin crucial information about the quality of the air they breathe. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

I would ask that you reconsider your response and take the opportunity now to provide this important analysis and advice. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or Bharat Mathur, Director, Air and Radiation Division, at (312) 353-2212 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Francis X. Lyons
Regional Administrator

3

cc: George E. Meyer, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Lloyd L. Eagan, Director
Bureau of Air Management
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

JUL 19 2000

The Honorable Mike Huckabee
Governor of Arkansas
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Governor Huckabee:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your State's recommendations regarding designations under the 8-hour ozone standard. Making recommendations on designations and geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step towards informing the citizens in your State about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We note that, while your letter acknowledged that Crittenden County is not meeting the 8-hour ozone standard, you did not recommend the county be designated as "nonattainment." We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final designations/boundaries for areas in your state.

Even though the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

The EPA is moving forward with the designations process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit Court decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together, we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your State.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (214) 665-2100 to discuss this further.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregg A. Cooke".

Gregg A. Cooke
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Randall Mathis
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Ms. Becky Keough
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2739

JUL 19 2000

The Honorable M. J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
Governor of Louisiana
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Dear Governor Foster:

Thank you for your letter regarding designations under the 8-hour ozone standard. After an initial review, we remain concerned that the State has recommended "unclassifiable" designations for areas monitoring 8-hour ozone violations. It is important to acknowledge those areas where data indicate nonattainment or contributions to nonattainment of air quality standards, so that your citizens are fully informed about the threat to public health. Each State has this responsibility and it is a vital part of the nation's clean air program.

On March 28 of this year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued guidance on 8-hour ozone designations and in it requested your recommendations on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health and to identify nearby areas that contribute to these problems so that we can make such important information available to the public. Your letter describes even counties with monitored 8-hour violations as "unclassifiable," and we would like to discuss this with you.

Before we evaluate your proposal pursuant to our guidance, we would like to offer you the opportunity to re-evaluate your response. We would be glad to assist in any way in this process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (214) 665-2100 to discuss this further.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gregg A. Cooke".

Gregg A. Cooke
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Dale Givens
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Bob Hannah
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

JUL 19 2000

The Honorable Gary E. Johnson
Governor of New Mexico
Santa Fe, NM 87503

Dear Governor Johnson:

The purpose of this letter is to acknowledge receipt of New Mexico's recommendations regarding air quality designations with respect to the national health based standard for ozone (smog). As you are aware, on March 28 of this year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued guidance on 8-hour ozone designations and in it requested States' recommendations on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems.

Last June, you provided EPA with a recommendation of "attainment" status for all areas of the State with regard to the 8-hour ozone standard based on 1996-1998 ambient ozone monitoring data. On July 10 of this year, we received confirmation from Ms. Sandra Ely, Air Quality Bureau Chief of the New Mexico Environment Department, that all ozone monitors in the State continue to show attainment of the 8-hour ozone standard based on data collected through 1999. Based on this information, the State of New Mexico does not need to submit another recommendation in 2000.

Although EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing States' recommendations and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit Court decision to the Supreme Court.

Your recommendation regarding designations under the 8-hour ozone standard is a critical step towards informing the citizens in your State about air quality in their cities and hometowns. I appreciate your assistance in this process.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (214) 665-2100.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregg A. Cooke".

Gregg A. Cooke
Regional Administrator

2

cc: Mr. Peter Maggiore
New Mexico Environment Department
Ms. Sandra Ely
New Mexico Environment Department
Ms. Sarah Kotchian
Albuquerque Environmental Health Department

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

JUL 19 2000

The Honorable Frank Keating
Governor of Oklahoma
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Governor Keating:

Thank you for your letter regarding designations under the 8-hour ozone standard. After an initial review, we remain concerned that the State has recommended "unclassifiable" designations for areas monitoring 8-hour ozone violations. It is important to acknowledge those areas where data indicate nonattainment or contributions to nonattainment of air quality standards, so that your citizens are fully informed about the threat to public health. Each State has this responsibility and it is a vital part of the nation's clean air program.

On March 28 of this year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued guidance on 8-hour ozone designations and in it requested your recommendations on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health and to identify nearby areas that contribute to these problems so that we can make such important information available to the public. Your letter describes even counties with monitored 8-hour violations as "unclassifiable," and we would like to discuss this with you.

Before we evaluate your proposal pursuant to our guidance, we would like to offer you the opportunity to re-evaluate your response. We would be glad to assist in any way in this process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (214) 665-2100 to discuss this further.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregg A. Cooke".

Gregg A. Cooke
Regional Administrator

2

cc: Mr. Mark S. Coleman
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Eddie Terrell
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200

DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

JUL 19 2000

The Honorable George W. Bush
Governor of Texas
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Governor Bush:

Thank you for your letter regarding designations under the 8-hour ozone standard. After an initial review, we remain concerned that the State has recommended "unclassifiable" designations for areas monitoring 8-hour ozone violations. It is important to acknowledge those areas where data indicate nonattainment or contributions to nonattainment of air quality standards, so that your citizens are fully informed about the threat to public health. Each State has this responsibility and it is a vital part of the nation's clean air program.

On March 28 of this year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued guidance on 8-hour ozone designations and in it requested your recommendations on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health and to identify nearby areas that contribute to these problems so that we can make such important information available to the public. With the exception of the current 1-hour ozone nonattainment areas, your letter describes even counties with monitored 8-hour violations as "unclassifiable," and we would like to discuss this with you.

Before we evaluate your proposal pursuant to our guidance, we would like to offer you the opportunity to re-evaluate your response. We would be glad to assist in any way in this process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (214) 665-2100 to discuss this further.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gregg A. Cooke".

Gregg A. Cooke
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Robert J. Huston
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
Mr. Jeff Saitas
Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 N. 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

JUL 19 2000

OFFICE OF
THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack
Governor of Iowa
State Capitol Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Governor Vilsack:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your state's recommendations regarding air quality designations with respect to the national health-based standard for ozone, a major constituent of smog. Your letter is an important step towards providing citizens across the nation with critical information about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and work with you as necessary in determining final designations.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. The EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process.

As a result, the EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring about cleaner, healthier air.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (913) 551-7006 to discuss this further. Alternately, you may contact Art Spratlin of my staff. Mr. Spratlin can be reached at (913) 551-7401.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dennis Grams".

Dennis Grams, P.E.
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Mike Valde
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Mr. Pete Hamlin
Iowa Department of Natural Resources



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 N. 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

JUL 19 2000

OFFICE OF
THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Honorable Bill Graves
Governor of Kansas
State Capitol Building
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Governor Graves:

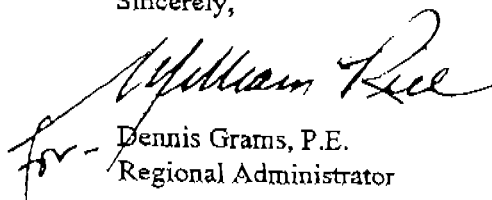
Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your state's recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your state with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. The EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process.

As a result, the EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your state.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (913) 551-7006 to discuss this further. Alternately, you may contact Art Spratlin of my staff. Mr. Spratlin can be reached at (913) 551-7401.

Sincerely,


for - Dennis Grams, P.E.
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Ron Hammerschmidt
Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Mr. Jan Sides
Kansas Department of Health and Environment



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 N. 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

JUL 19 2000

OFFICE OF
THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Honorable Mel Carnahan
Governor of Missouri
State Capitol Building
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Dear Governor Carnahan:

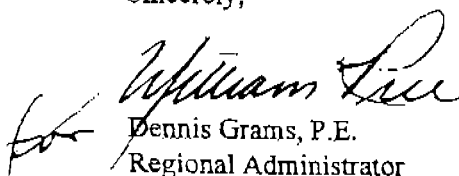
The purpose of this letter is to acknowledge receipt of Missouri's recommendations regarding air quality designations with respect to the national health based standard for ozone (smog) as submitted by Stephen Mahfood, Director of the Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Mahfood's letter is a critical step towards providing the citizens in your state with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. The EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process.

As a result, the EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your state.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (913) 551-7006 to discuss this further. Alternately, you may contact Art Spratlin of my staff. Mr. Spratlin can be reached at (913) 551-7401.

Sincerely,


Dennis Grams, P.E.
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Stephen Mahfood
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Mr. Roger Randolph
Missouri Department of Natural Resources



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 N. 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

JUL 19 2000

OFFICE OF
THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Honorable Mike Johanns
Governor of Nebraska
Box 94848
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4848

Dear Governor Johanns:

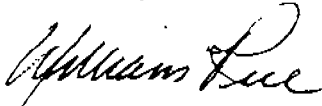
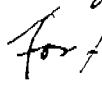
The purpose of this letter is to acknowledge receipt of Nebraska's recommendations regarding air quality designations with respect to the national health based standard for ozone (smog) as submitted by Michael Linder, Director of the Department of Environmental Quality. Mr. Linder's letter is an important step towards providing citizens across the nation with critical information about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review these recommendations and work with you as necessary in determining final designations.

Even though the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. The EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process.

As a result, the EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health in parallel while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring about cleaner, healthier air.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (913) 551-7006 to discuss this further. Alternately, you may contact Art Spratlin of my staff. Mr. Spratlin can be reached at (913) 551-7401.

Sincerely,


for  Dennis Grams, P.E.
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Mike Linder
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
Ms. Shelley Kaderly
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 8
999 18TH STREET - SUITE 300
DENVER, CO 80202-2466
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

JUL 19 2000

Ref: 8P-AR

Honorable Bill Owens
Governor of Colorado
Executive Chambers
136 State Capitol
Denver, Colorado 80203-2471

Dear Governor Owens:

We have received a letter, dated June 21, 2000, from Margie Perkins, Director of Colorado's Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) which provided additional air quality monitoring data and reaffirmed your May 10, 2000, recommended designations for the eight-hour ozone standard for all areas in Colorado. APCD reaffirmed your recommendation that all areas of Colorado should be designated as attainment or attainment / unclassifiable for ozone. We appreciate receiving this recommendation. It is an important first step in informing Colorado citizens about healthy and unhealthy air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns.

Even though EPA's new eight-hour ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its May 14, 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (303) 312-6308 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca W. Hammer".

Rebecca W. Hammer
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Jane Norton, Executive Director, CDPHE
Doug Benevento, CDPHE



John Swartout, Governor's Office
Bob Brady, Chairman of the Air Quality Control Commission
Kerrigan Clough, 8OPRA
Richard Long, 8P-AR



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8
999 18TH STREET - SUITE 300
DENVER, CO 80202-2466
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

JUL 19 2000

Ref: 8P-AR

Honorable Marc Racicot
Governor of Montana
State Capitol
Helena, Montana 59620-0801

Dear Governor Racicot:

We have received a letter, dated June 14, 2000, from Mark Simonich, Director of Montana's Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) which forwarded your State's recommended designations for the eight-hour ozone standard for all areas in Montana. MDEQ recommended that all areas of Montana should be designated as attainment or unclassifiable for ozone. We appreciate receiving this recommendation. It is an important first step in informing Montana citizens about healthy and unhealthy air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns.

Even though EPA's new eight-hour ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its May 14, 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (303) 312-6308 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Hanmer".

Rebecca W. Hanmer
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Mark Simonich, Director, MDEQ
Don Vidrine, Chief, Air and Waste Management Bureau, MDEQ
Kerrigan Clough, 8OPRA
Richard Long, 8P-AR





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8
999 18TH STREET - SUITE 300
DENVER, CO 80202-2466
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

JUL 19 2000

Ref: 8P-AR

Honorable Edward Schafer
Governor of North Dakota
600 E Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 101
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0001

Dear Governor Schafer:

Thank you for your letter of June 6, 2000, which forwarded your recommended designation of attainment for the national health based standard for ozone for all areas in North Dakota. We appreciate receiving this recommendation. It is an important first step in informing North Dakota citizens about healthy and unhealthy air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns.

Even though EPA's new eight-hour ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its May 14, 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendation and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (303) 312-6308 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca W. Hammer".

Rebecca W. Hammer
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Murray Sagsveen, State Health Officer, North Dakota Department of Health
Francis Schwindt, Chief, Environmental Health Section
Jeffrey Burgess, P.E., Director, Division of Air Quality
Kerrigan Clough, 8OPRA
Richard Long, 8P-AR





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8
999 18TH STREET - SUITE 300
DENVER, CO 80202-2466
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

JUL 19 2000

Ref: 8P-AR

Honorable William Janklow
Governor of South Dakota
State Capitol
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3181

Dear Governor Janklow:

We have received a letter, dated June 30, 2000, from Steven Pirner, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) which forwarded your State's recommended designations for the eight-hour ozone standard for all areas in South Dakota. DENR recommended that all areas of South Dakota should be designated as attainment / unclassifiable for ozone. We appreciate receiving this recommendation. It is an important first step in informing South Dakota citizens about healthy and unhealthy air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns.

Even though EPA's new eight-hour ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its May 14, 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (303) 312-6308 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca W. Hammer".

Rebecca W. Hammer
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Steven Pirner, Secretary, SDDENR
Jeanne Goodman, Administrator, Air Quality Program, SDDENR
Kerrigan Clough, 8OPRA
Richard Long, 8P-AR





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 8
999 18TH STREET - SUITE 300
DENVER, CO 80202-2466
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

JUL 19 2000

Ref: 8P-AR

Honorable Michael Leavitt
Governor of Utah
Office of the Governor
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-0601

Dear Governor Leavitt:

Thank you for your letter of June 30, 2000, which forwarded your recommended designation of attainment for the national health based standard for ozone for all areas in Utah. We appreciate receiving this recommendation. It is an important first step in informing Utah citizens about healthy and unhealthy air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns.

Even though EPA's new eight-hour ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its May 14, 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendation and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (303) 312-6308 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Hammer".

Rebecca W. Hammer
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Dianne Nielson, Executive Director, UDEQ
Ursula Kramer, Director, Division of Air Quality, UDEQ
Kerrigan Clough, 8OPRA
Richard Long, 8P-AR



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 8
999 18TH STREET - SUITE 300
DENVER, CO 80202-2466
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

JUL 19 2000

Ref: 8P-AR

Honorable Jim Geringer
Governor of Wyoming
State Capitol
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Dear Governor Geringer:

Thank you for your letter of July 7, 2000, which forwarded your recommended designation of attainment for the national health based standard for ozone for all areas in Wyoming. We appreciate receiving this recommendation. It is an important first step in informing Wyoming citizens about healthy and unhealthy air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns.

Even though EPA's new eight-hour ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in its May 14, 1999 decision, recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendation and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (303) 312-6308 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Hanmer".

Rebecca W. Hanmer
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Dennis Hemmer, Director, WDEQ
Dan Olson, Administrator, Air Quality Division, WDEQ
Kerrigan Clough, SOPRA
Richard Long, 8P-AR





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

July 19, 2000

OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORHonorable Jane Dee Hull
Governor of Arizona
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Hull:


We are concerned that your state has not yet submitted recommendations informing your citizens about areas where air pollution poses a threat to public health. Each state has this responsibility and it is a vital part of the nation's clean air program.

On March 28, of this year, EPA requested your recommendations by June 30 on areas where smog exceeds levels that are protective of public health and nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

One of the most important steps in the process is for governors to identify areas that they determine have ozone levels that are not protective of public health or to identify nearby areas which contribute to these problems. Recommending and identifying areas with these high pollution levels provides the citizens of your state with crucial information about the quality of the air they breathe. Smog at high levels can pose serious risks to public health, including exacerbated cases of childhood asthma.

Your role in this process is critical and we encourage you to provide the previously requested important analysis and advice. We are aware that you are considering whether to provide recommendations. We strongly encourage you to do so. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (415) 744-1001 to discuss this further.

Yours,


Felicia Marcus
Regional Administratorcc: Jacqueline E. Schafer, ADEQ
Nancy Wrona, ADEQ
James Bourey, MAG
Al Brown, Maricopa County



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

**OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR**

July 19, 2000

Honorable Gray Davis
Governor of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Davis:

On July 14, we received a letter from Michael Kenny, Executive Officer of the California Air Resources Board making your State's recommended designations for the eight-hour ozone standard for all areas in California. We appreciate receiving these recommendations. They are a critical step toward providing the citizens in your state with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final boundaries for nonattainment areas in California.

Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing California's recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999 DC Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens in your state.

ARB has recommended sixteen separate nonattainment areas spanning the State from Shasta County to Imperial County. Because there is extensive pollutant transport between many of these nonattainment areas, attainment of the eight-hour ozone standard will rely on a combination of local, upwind, statewide, and national control measures. We appreciate ARB's

-2-

intent to coordinate the local plans to assure attainment in both upwind and downwind areas. We will work with ARB and the local air districts to formalize this coordination through a Memorandum of Agreement.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (415) 744-1001 to discuss this further.

Yours,



Felicia Marcus
Regional Administrator

cc: Alan Lloyd, ARB
Michael Kenny, ARB
Stew Wilson, CAPCOA



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

July 19, 2000

OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORHonorable Kenny C. Guinn
Governor of Nevada
Capitol Building
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Governor Guinn:

On July 6, we received a letter from Allen Biaggi, Administrator of Nevada's Division of Environmental Protection, forwarding your State's recommended designations for the eight-hour ozone standard for all areas in Nevada. NDEP is recommending that Washoe County be designated attainment and the rest of the State be designated unclassifiable. We appreciate receiving these recommendations. They are an important first step in informing Nevada citizens about healthy and unhealthy air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns.

Even though EPA's new ozone standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year. As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999 DC Circuit decision to the Supreme Court.

We will be working with NDEP and Clark County over the next few months on the designation for the Las Vegas area which, at this time, NDEP is recommending as unclassifiable. Clark County Health Department established two new ozone monitoring sites in 1998. These sites recorded high readings in both 1998 and 1999. If these monitors record similar high readings in 2000, then NDEP's recommendation may need to be changed from unclassifiable to nonattainment.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (415) 744-1001 to discuss this further.

Yours,

Felicia Marcus
Regional Administratorcc: Allen Biaggi, NDEP
Michael Naylor, Clark County Health District
John Schlegel, Clark County Comprehensive Planning
Andy Goodrich, Washoe County Health District



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

July 20, 2000

Reply To:
Attn Of: OAQ-107

Honorable Tony Knowles
Governor of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Knowles:

Thank you for the recent letter from your designee, Michele Brown, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, forwarding the State's recommendations informing your citizens about the area designations under the new 8-hour ozone standard. We intend to review all recommendations and will work with states in making final designations.

Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. Together we can continue to work together for clean air in Alaska.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 206-553-1234 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles E. Findley".

Charles E. Findley
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Michele Brown, ADEC
Tom Chapple, ADEC



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

July 19, 2000

Reply To
Attn Of: OAQ-107

Honorable Dirk Kempthorne
Governor of Idaho
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0034

Dear Governor Kempthorne:

Thank you for the recent letter from your designee, C. Stephen Allred, Administrator of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, forwarding your state's recommendations informing your citizens about the area designations under the new 8-hour ozone standard. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step towards providing the citizens of Idaho with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final designations for your attainment, unclassifiable, or nonattainment areas.

Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens of Idaho.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 206-553-1234 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles E. Findley".

Charles E. Findley
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: C. Stephen Allred, IDEQ



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

July 19, 2000

Reply To
Attn Of: OAQ-107

Honorable John A. Kitzhaber
Governor of Oregon
254 State Capitol Building
Salem, OR 97310-0722

Dear Governor Kitzhaber:

Thank you for your recent letter forwarding your state's recommendations informing your citizens about the area designations under the new 8-hour ozone standard. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step towards providing the citizens of Oregon with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final designations for your attainment, unclassifiable, or nonattainment areas.

Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens of Oregon.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 206-553-1234 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles E. Findley".

Charles E. Findley
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Langdon Marsh, ODEQ
Andrew Ginsburg, ODEQ



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

July 19, 2000

Reply To: OAQ-107
Attn Of:

Honorable Gary Locke
Governor of Washington
P.O. Box 40002
Olympia, Washington 98504-0002

Dear Governor Locke:

Thank you for the recent letter from your designee, Tom Fitzsimmons, Director of Washington State Department of Ecology, forwarding the State's recommendations informing your citizens about the area designations under the new 8-hour ozone standard. Making recommendations on geographic boundaries for the national air quality standard for smog is a critical step towards providing the citizens in Washington State with an important tool to make informed decisions about air pollution levels in their cities and hometowns. We intend to carefully review your recommendations and will work with you in determining final designations for your attainment, unclassifiable, or nonattainment areas.

Even though EPA's new smog standard is pending before the courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in its 1999 decision recognized that the designation process would continue. EPA is obligated under the Clean Air Act and the 1998 Transportation Equity Act to complete this process, which includes reviewing your recommendations and making ours later this year.

As a result, EPA is moving forward with the designation process. We are proceeding with this action to protect public health while appealing other parts of the May 14, 1999, D.C. Circuit decision to the Supreme Court. This will ensure that citizens living in nonattainment areas will have cleaner air as quickly as possible once the ongoing litigation is completed. Together we can move forward to bring cleaner, healthier air to the citizens of Washington State.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 206-553-1234 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles E. Findley".

Charles E. Findley
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Tom Fitzsimmons, Ecology
Mary Burg, Ecology