

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

ATTACHMENT 1

Dear Applicant:

As you may know, EPA Administrator Browner is committed to providing the funds necessary to develop and implement a nationwide fine particulate (PM-2.5) monitoring network by the end of fiscal year 1999. As a result, EPA has established a new grant program to begin in fiscal year 1998 dedicated to accomplishing this goal. This grant program will be administered by EPA Regional Offices utilizing Section 103 of the Clean Air Act as the funding vehicle. This funding authority does not require matching funds and will allow EPA to provide 100 percent of the resources necessary to develop and implement the PM-2.5 monitoring network.

Eligibility under this program is applicable to State and local governments, Indian Tribes, and U.S. territories and possessions which submit applications proposing projects with technical merit and relevance to EPA's mission. All information provided by EPA as grant application guidance applies equally to the above entities as eligible applicants/recipients of federal assistance under this program.

In an effort to streamline administrative requirements and minimize program workload, EPA has designed an application/award process consisting of model application guidance and a standard PM-2.5 program work plan for use by grantees. This application guidance will be provided to you shortly. One important feature of the process will be a centrally managed federal contract for purchase of PM-2.5 equipment and services to be made available to individual grantees through the assistance agreement. Specific arrangements for participation in this national contract will be handled through EPA Regional Offices as an integral part of the application process.

As funding becomes available nationally for development of the PM-2.5 network under Section 103 of the Clean Air Act, the Regional Office will communicate individual funding allocations as part of the overall PM-2.5 program application guidance package. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact _____ at (XXX) XXX-XXXX.

Sincerely yours,

Regional Air Program / Office Director