



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

SECRETARY

December 10, 2013

Mr. Shawn M. Garvin
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street (Mail Code: 3RA00)
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Mr. Garvin:

Pursuant to Section 107 of the Clean Air Act (CAA), enclosed are the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's designation recommendations pertinent to the revised annual National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM_{2.5}). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgated the annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS of 12 micrograms per cubic meter on December 14, 2012 (78 FR 3086; January 15, 2013). The Commonwealth determined the recommended geographical boundaries for annual PM_{2.5} "attainment," "nonattainment" and "unclassifiable/attainment" areas in accordance with EPA's April 16, 2013, guidance entitled, "Initial Area Designations for the 2012 Revised Primary Annual Fine Particle National Ambient Air Quality Standard."

Prior to finalizing the designation recommendations, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provided public notice and a public comment period on the proposed recommendations. A Comment/Response document addressing the public comments received is also enclosed.

We understand that EPA will provide notice of any modifications to Pennsylvania's recommendations at least 120 days prior to issuing final designations. The DEP will comment on any proposed modifications to our recommendations, as appropriate and as authorized under Section 107 of the CAA. We look forward to collaborating with your staff during the development of the final annual PM_{2.5} designations for this Commonwealth.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of our annual PM_{2.5} designation recommendations. Should you have any questions or need additional information during the annual PM_{2.5} designation process, please contact Joyce E. Epps, Director, Bureau of Air Quality, by e-mail at jeepps@state.pa.us or by telephone at 717.787.9702.

Sincerely,

E. Christopher Abruzzo
Acting Secretary

Enclosures