



Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Rachel Carson State Office Building

P.O. Box 2063

Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

November 16, 2004

Secretary

717-787-2814

Mr. Donald S. Welsh  
Regional Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Mr. Welsh:

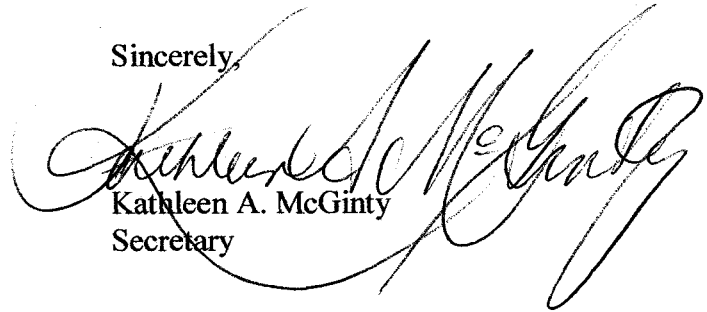
This letter is in regard to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) proposed designations for the Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standard. EPA notified the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Commonwealth or Pennsylvania) in a letter dated June 29, 2004, that it intends to modify Pennsylvania's PM<sub>2.5</sub> designation recommendations. Pennsylvania responded to this notification on August 30, 2004. The August 30 response provided additional analysis to support our attainment designation recommendations pertaining to Mercer County in the Youngstown area, Lawrence, Butler, Armstrong, and Greene counties in the Pittsburgh area, Indiana County in the Johnstown area, Lebanon County in the Harrisburg area, and Bucks and Montgomery counties.

As you know, Armstrong, Greene, Indiana, and Lawrence counties (power plant counties) are proposed as nonattainment because of EPA's "weighted emissions" approach that expands nonattainment areas based on certain factors. However, during recent discussions with EPA Region III staff, we have determined that EPA may consider partial county nonattainment area boundaries for these "power plant counties." We continue to believe that attainment is the appropriate designation for Armstrong, Greene, Indiana, and Lawrence counties and that emissions from large point sources, including power plants, are best addressed by national or regional legislation or regulation. Nonetheless, we have developed alternate partial county boundaries for Armstrong, Greene, Indiana, and Lawrence counties in response to EPA's recent position on "power plant counties." In the event that EPA decides not to designate Armstrong, Greene, Indiana, and Lawrence counties as attainment areas, favorable consideration of the partial county boundaries depicted in the enclosed map would be greatly appreciated.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning our PM<sub>2.5</sub> designation recommendations, please contact Thomas K. Fidler, Acting Deputy Secretary for Air, Recycling and Radiation Protection, by e-mail at [tfidler@state.pa.us](mailto:tfidler@state.pa.us) or by telephone at 717-772-2724, or Joyce E. Epps, Director of the Bureau of Air Quality, by e-mail at [jeepps@state.pa.us](mailto:jeepps@state.pa.us) or by telephone at 717-787-9702.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of the enclosed partial county boundaries for PM<sub>2.5</sub> nonattainment areas.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Kathleen A. McGinty'. The signature is written over the typed name and title.

Kathleen A. McGinty  
Secretary

Enclosure

Scenario 3 - New PM 2.5 Nonattainment Areas  
 Portions of Armstrong, Butler, Greene, Indiana, and Lawrence Counties Added

