



Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 2063
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

April 10, 2009

Secretary

717-787-2814

Mr. William C. Early
Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street (Mail Code: 3RA00)
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Mr. Early:

This letter supersedes my letter of March 26, 2009. In December 2008, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated a number of areas in Pennsylvania as nonattainment for the revised 24-hour fine particulate (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) based on monitoring data from 2005 through 2007. After reviewing data, we have determined that concentrations at the monitor affecting the Johnstown (Cambria County and portions of Indiana County) area have declined, so that monitor now measures air quality meeting the 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard. Because of anticipated controls within and upwind of these areas, it is unlikely that this monitor will exceed the 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard in the future.

We therefore request that EPA re-evaluate its nonattainment designation for Johnstown and ask that this area be designated as attainment. A technical discussion of our conclusions and the February 5, 2009, letter certifying ambient PM_{2.5} data for 2008 are enclosed.

Thank you for considering our request. Should you have any questions or need additional information concerning our request, please contact Joyce E. Epps, Director of the Bureau of Air Quality, by e-mail at jeepps@state.pa.us or by telephone at 717-787-9702.

Sincerely,

John Hanger
Acting Secretary

Enclosures

