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:

In December 2008, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) indicated that a number of areas in Pennsylvania would be designated 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 for 2008, we have determined that concentrations at the monitor located in the Reading (Berks County) area have declined so that this monitor now measures air quality meeting the 24-hour fine particulate (PM$_{2.5}$) standard. Because of anticipated controls within and upwind of this area, 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 the Reading area and ask that this area be designated as attainment. The February 5, 2009, letter certifying ambient concentration data for 2008 is 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, Bureau of Air Quality, by e-mail at jeepps@state.pa.us or by telephone at 717-787-9702.

Sincerely,

John Hanger
Secretary

Enclosure
Mr. William C. Early

bcc: Secretary’s Office
     WARM Deputate
     J. Epps
     A. Shulman
     ARM Reading File
Bureau of Air Quality

Mr. William Wisniewski
Acting Regional Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency Region 3
1650 Arch Street, Mail Stop 3RA00
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Mr. Wisniewski:

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, according to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 58, the Pennsylvania 2008 PM$_{2.5}$ FRM ambient concentration data and the quality assurance data are completely submitted to the Air Quality System (AQS) database, and the ambient data are accurate taking into consideration the quality assurance findings. In addition, I certify that the data collection procedures conform to the applicable quality assurance, air monitoring methodology, probe siting criteria and reporting requirements in Part 58 of the CFR, Appendices A, C, E and F.

I am enclosing copies of the AMP 255 and AMP 450 reports for your reference. As required by 40 CFR Part 58.15, a letter certifying the submission and accuracy of the other criteria and non-criteria pollutants will be submitted to the US Environmental Protection Agency no later than July 1, 2009.

If you have any questions, you can call me at (717) 787-6548.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Miller, EPM
Division of Air Quality Monitoring

Enclosure

Co: Cathleen Kennedy (EPA Region III)