



Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

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

June 23, 2011

Secretary

717-787-2814

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(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA), enclosed are the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's designation recommendations pertinent to the 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) of 75 parts per billion (ppb), which was promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on June 2, 2010. (75 *Fed. Reg.* 35520).

During the 2008-2010 timeframe used for the designation recommendations, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania had 28 SO₂ monitors operating statewide. Two of the monitors are special purpose monitors which do not meet the required network design criteria for the SO₂ NAAQS. Of the 26 network SO₂ monitors operating in the Commonwealth, 21 monitors show concentrations below the 1-hour SO₂ standard.

Based on 2008-2010 monitoring data which exceeds the 75 ppb standard, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is recommending "nonattainment" designations for Allegheny, Beaver, Indiana, and Warren counties. In recent years, SO₂ emissions have declined significantly in the Commonwealth due to the installation of control technology to comply mainly with the Clean Air Interstate Rule. We're anticipating further reductions following the promulgation of the Transport Rule and the maximum achievable control technology standards, and may revise our recommendations based on the 2009-2011 monitoring data.

Since DEP has not yet conducted dispersion modeling to support the monitoring data showing attainment of the standard, DEP recommends that the remaining counties in Pennsylvania be designated as "unclassifiable." We understand that EPA will provide notice of any modifications to Pennsylvania's recommendations at least 120 days prior to issuing the final designations for the 1-hour SO₂ standard. In response to EPA's proposed modifications, DEP may supplement its initial recommendations based on dispersion modeling that will be conducted for certain areas in the Commonwealth prior to EPA's issuance of final designations in February 2012.

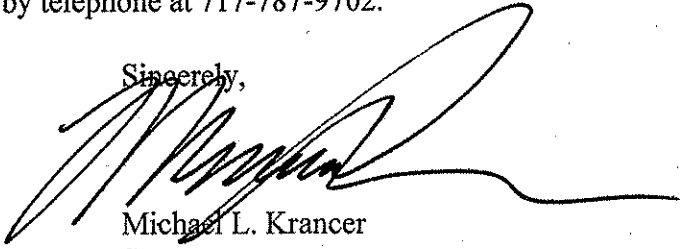


Mr. Shawn M. Garvin

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Should you have questions or need additional information during the development of the final SO₂ NAAQS designations for Pennsylvania, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Krancer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael L. Krancer
Secretary

Enclosures