

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

Secretary

717-787-2814

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

Dear Mr. Welsh:

In June 2004, nonattainment designations were effective for eight-hour ozone nonattainment areas including the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Area, Pennsylvania. This area is now monitoring attainment of the health-based ozone standard. Therefore, in accordance with the authority provided by Section 107(d)(3)(D) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C.A. §7407(D)(3)(d)), I am requesting your approval of a request to redesignate the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Area to attainment of the eight-hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard.

The redesignation request and a technical support document are enclosed for your favorable consideration. We are also concurrently submitting an eight-hour ozone Maintenance Plan for the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Area for your full approval as a revision to the State Implementation Plan. The technical support document also includes the 2002 base-year inventory.

If you have any questions or need additional information, 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,

Kathleen A. McGinty
Secretary

Enclosures