Pennsylvania's 2013 Ambient Air Monitoring Network Plan; Availability for Public Comment

On October 17, 2006, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgated final amendments to the national ambient air monitoring requirements for criteria pollutants at 40 CFR Parts 53 and 58 (relating to ambient air monitoring reference and equivalent methods; and ambient air quality surveillance). See 71 FR 61236 (October 17, 2006). The EPA's final rule requires state and local agencies to enhance air monitoring to "improve public health protection and better inform the public about air quality in their communities." Pursuant to 40 CFR 58.10 (relating to annual monitoring network plan and periodic network assessment), air quality state and local monitoring agencies must adopt an annual air-monitoring network plan and make the plan available for public inspection for at least 30 days prior to final submission to the EPA Regional Administrator. The plan, which is due July 1, 2012, must include a statement of purpose for each monitor and evidence that siting and operation of each monitor meets federal requirements. The EPA may also provide an opportunity for review and comment prior to approving or disapproving a State's Monitoring Network Plan.

On May 12, 2012, the 2013 Annual Air Monitoring Network Plan will be made available for public comment on the Department's website at http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/airwaste/aq/default.htm. The plan has been updated to address changes that have been made in Pennsylvania's ambient air monitoring network and to identify changes that are anticipated to occur in 2013.

The public is invited to submit comments on this network plan. All comments must be received by the Department on or before June 11, 2012. Written comments should be sent to the attention of Nicholas Lazor, Chief, Division of Air Quality Monitoring, Bureau of Air Quality, P.O. Box 8468, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8468 or by email to ra-epair@pa.gov. Use "Annual Monitoring Network Plan" as the subject line.

MICHAEL KRANCER,
Secretary