



February 7, 2025

Karen McGuire, Acting Deputy Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection – Region 1
5 Post Office Square – Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: Connecticut's Designation Request for the 2024 Revised National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Fine Particulate, PM_{2.5}

Dear Ms. McGuire,

On February 7, 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) strengthened the primary annual fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) from 12.0 micrograms per cubic meter to 9.0. This stronger standard will save lives, and help make the people of Connecticut, and across the United States, healthier by preventing premature deaths, as well as reducing susceptibility to respiratory illnesses related to PM_{2.5} air pollution.

As the federal Clean Air Act (CAA) is implemented through long standing principles of cooperative federalism, implementation of the new standard will fall primarily to the states. As we embark on this new planning process together, and pursuant to CAA section 107(d), the State of Connecticut hereby submits its designation request, which recommends that the entire state be designated as "attainment." As required under the federal Clean Air Act, the attached designation request identifies areas that comply with the standard, or that violate or contribute to nearby violations of the standard.

I am pleased to say the entire state measures in compliance with the revised federal annual standard, which is based on the enclosed review of data from Connecticut's ambient air quality monitoring network. With respect to nearby areas, the Elizabeth Lab Monitor in Union County, New Jersey is the nearest noncompliant monitor in the region. The enclosed review also indicates that emissions from Connecticut sources do not materially contribute to air quality at the noncomplying monitor. Therefore, I recommend that the entire State of Connecticut be designated as "attainment" for the revised annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS.

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If we can be of further assistance as you review this recommendation, please contact Tracy Babbidge, Air Bureau Chief at the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection at (860) 539-7341. Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

Sincerely,



Governor Ned Lamont

cc: Katie Dykes, Commissioner, CT DEEP
Emma Cimino, CT DEEP
Tracy Babbidge, CT DEEP