



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

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DEC 23 2004

Dept. of Environmental Protection
Office of the Commissioner

December 20, 2004

The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building, 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

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DEC 27 2004

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

RE: PM 2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard:
Recommended Designations for Connecticut

Dear Administrator Leavitt:

Connecticut is in receipt of EPA's announcement designating Fairfield and New Haven Counties non-attainment for the fine particulate matter national ambient air quality standards (NAAQs). We agree that reductions in this standard are important and necessary to protect public health. While we believe that the science Connecticut provided in February 2004 indicates that the state is in attainment for PM 2.5, we remain steadfast to our commitment to aggressively achieve reductions for clean, healthy air.

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection has outlined a thoughtful and robust agenda for achieving clean air. Connecticut is a recognized leader for implementing the most stringent power plant regulations in the country. We have been pursuing an aggressive diesel risk reduction strategy and our Climate Change Action Plan has also been recognized as a national model. We hope the national and regional agendas will be as stringent as our own to reduce fine particulate emissions.

Be assured that the health of Connecticut's citizens is foremost in our minds and we will continue to pursue an aggressive agenda for reducing fine particulate matter. We ask for your agency's assistance in achieving the regional, health-based goals reflected in this designation, and look forward to working together with EPA and neighboring states to improving air quality in the northeast and nationally.

Sincerely,

M. JODI RELL
Governor

cc - Comm Mc Carthy

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF AIR MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF BUREAU CHIEF

DEC 28 2004

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