



Ned Lamont
GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

December 8, 2025

Mark Sanborn
Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection – Region 1
5 Post Office Square – Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: Connecticut's Designation Recommendation for the 2024 Revised Secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Sulfur Dioxide, SO₂

Dear Mr. Sanborn,

On December 11, 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgated the secondary sulfur dioxide (SO₂) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) as a three-year annual average standard of 10 parts per billion (ppb), replacing the previous three-hour standard of 0.5 parts per million (ppm). This update protects the public welfare from any known or anticipated adverse effects associated with the presence of SO₂ in the ambient air and deposition that can be harmful to ecosystems, particularly forests, lakes, and streams.

As implementation of this revised standard proceeds under the principles of cooperative federalism, and pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act, section 107(d), the State of Connecticut hereby submits its designation recommendation. Based on a review of quality-assured ambient air monitoring data by the Connecticut Department of Energy and

Environmental Protection (DEEP), I recommend that all areas of Connecticut be designated as “attainment” for the revised secondary SO₂ NAAQS.

This recommendation is based on SO₂ concentrations collected from ambient air quality monitoring data from 2022 through 2024. All Connecticut and surrounding state monitoring sites demonstrate full compliance with the new standard, with the highest three-year annual average significantly below the 10-ppb threshold. As such, Connecticut sources do not materially contribute to nonattainment in nearby states. Therefore, no area of the state should be designated as contributing to a violation of the standard. This data is fully documented in the attached designation recommendation.

The State of Connecticut remains committed to protecting both public health and the environment, and I look forward to EPA’s final designation decision. If DEEP can provide further assistance as you review this recommendation, please contact Tracy Babbidge, Air Bureau Chief at the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, at tracy.babbidge@ct.gov.

Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

Sincerely,



Ned Lamont

Governor

cc: Katie Dykes, Commissioner, CT DEEP

Emma Cimino, CT DEEP

Tracy Babbidge, CT DEEP