



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

John R. Kasich, **Governor**
Mary Taylor, **Lt. Governor**
Scott J. Nally, **Director**

OCT 05 2011

Ms. Susan Hedman
Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Re: PM_{2.5} redesignation request for the 1997 PM_{2.5} Annual Standard for the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain Area

Dear Administrator Hedman:

I am writing to formally request a redesignation to attainment of the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain area (Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties) with respect to the 1997 PM_{2.5} annual standard. The enclosed submittal combines the redesignation request and the required maintenance plan for this area.

Monitoring of existing air quality indicates that the 1997 National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for PM_{2.5} has been attained throughout this area based on 2008-2010 air quality data. Emissions projections indicate that current controls, existing State rules, existing federal rules, and Ohio's PSD program will be more than sufficient to maintain the NAAQS indefinitely into the future. These programs will, therefore, constitute the attainment and maintenance plan for the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain area.

The enclosed information, compiled by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), Ohio Department of Transportation, and the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA), shows significant emission reductions in point and mobile sources since ambient exceedances have occurred. A significant portion of the improved air quality can be attributed to federal programs for the mobile source sector, the regional reductions associated with the NOx Trading Program, and the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR).

Ohio EPA notified the public of the draft and the opportunity to provide comments on August 18, 2011. The public hearing for this package was held on September 23, 2011, in Twinsburg, Ohio.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Hunter in our Division of Air Pollution Control at (614) 644-3696.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott J. Nally". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "S" and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott J. Nally
Director

Enclosure