



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

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

MAY 30 2012

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

Re: Redesignation Request for the 24-Hour PM_{2.5} Standard for the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain Area

Dear Administrator Hedman:

I am writing to formally request a redesignation to attainment for the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain area (Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties) with respect to the 2006 24-Hour PM_{2.5} standard. The enclosed submittal combines the redesignation request and the required maintenance plan for this area. Ohio EPA is also requesting U.S. EPA make a clean data determination to ensure the requirement to submit an attainment demonstration SIP will not be applicable in the event the redesignation request and maintenance plan is not approved prior to the attainment demonstration SIP submittal deadline of December 14, 2012.

Monitoring of existing air quality indicates that the 2006 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) in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Transportation (Ohio DOT), 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 April 12, 2012. This notice was also published in a newspaper of general circulation in

Cleveland, Ohio. The public hearing for this package was held on May 21, 2012 in Twinsburg, Ohio. Testimony was provided at the hearing and written comments were received regarding the redesignation request. The comments received and Ohio EPA's response can be found in Appendix F. If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Dines in our Division of Air Pollution Control at (614) 644-3696.

Sincerely,



Scott J. Nally

Director

Cc: Bob Hodanbosi, Chief, Division of Air Pollution Control, Ohio EPA

Enclosure