



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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September 22, 2006

Bharat Mathur
Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA, Region V
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Re: Washington County Eight-Hour Ozone Redesignation and Maintenance Plan

Dear Mr. Mathur:

I am writing to formally request a redesignation to attainment for Washington County, Ohio (Parkersburg-Marietta, WV-OH) with respect to the eight-hour ozone standard. The enclosed submittal combines the redesignation request and the required maintenance plan for this area.

Monitoring of existing air quality indicates that the national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) for ozone has been attained throughout this area. Emissions projections indicate that current controls, existing State rules, the Federal Motor Vehicle Program, the Clean Air Interstate Rule 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 Washington County area.

I am requesting that this submittal be reviewed under parallel processing as provided for in voluntary SIP-related requests (58FR38108). The public meeting for this package will be held on October 25, 2006, in Marietta, Ohio. The results will be submitted, along with any revisions based on the public comments received as soon as they are available. Final submittals for each of the components of the attainment, maintenance and contingency plans will be submitted once they are completed. It is understood that final action on the redesignation request may not be taken by U.S. EPA until that time.

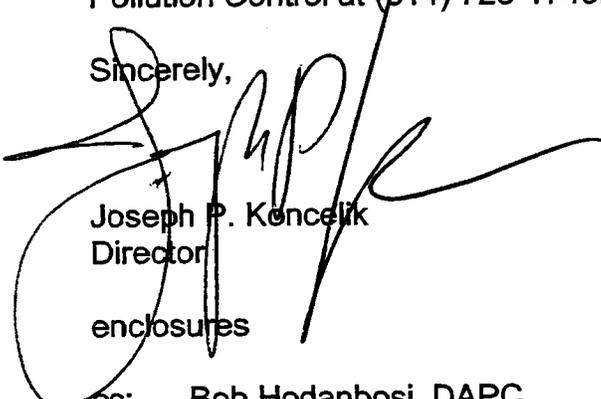
The enclosed information, compiled by Ohio EPA, Ohio DOT, WVDEP and the associated planning organizations shows significant reductions in point and mobile sources since the violations of 2002. A significant portion of the improved air quality can be attributed to the Federal Motor Vehicle Control Program and regional reductions associated with the NO_x Trading Program.

Bob Taft, Governor
Bruce Johnson, Lieutenant Governor
Joseph P. Koncelik, Director

Ohio EPA is proceeding with soliciting public participation on the redesignation request and maintenance/contingency plan revisions. If public comments alter the substance of this request, Ohio EPA will submit revisions to the package. I ask that U.S. EPA initiate parallel review and approval of this request and submit comments by the close of the public comment period.

If you have any questions, please contact Sam MacDonald in the Division of Air Pollution Control at (614) 728-1743.

Sincerely,



Joseph P. Kencelik
Director

enclosures

cc: Bob Hodanbosi, DAPC
Bill Spires, DAPC