Steve Bullock, Governor Tracy Stone-Manning, Director

P. O. Box 200901

Helena, MT 59620-0901

(406) 444-2544

Website: www.deq.mt.gov

April 10, 2013

PM Advance c/o Laura Bunte U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, C304-01 Research Triangle Park, NC 27711

Dear Ms. Bunte:

The State of Montana in partnership with the Lewis & Clark County would like to participate in PM Advance with respect to Lewis & Clark County. We wish to join this partnership with EPA to preserve or improve the air quality in Lewis & Clark County, and we meet the program eligibility criteria, i.e.:

- (1) Lewis & Clark County is not currently a nonattainment area for the 1997 and/or 2012 annual fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and/or for the 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} NAAQS,
- (2) Lewis & Clark County consists of the city of Helena and East Helena located within Lewis & Clark county Montana,
- (3) The following air monitor(s) reflect the air quality in Lewis & Clark County: Helena-Rossiter Pump House Monitor (30-049-0026), and
- (4) Montana has submitted data for inclusion in the National Emissions Inventory.

We understand that our efforts under PM Advance may benefit Lewis & Clark County by potentially:

- Reducing air pollution in terms of $PM_{2.5}$ as well as other air pollutants,
- Ensuring continued healthy PM_{2.5} levels,
- Maintaining the PM_{2.5} NAAQS,
- Helping avoid violations of the PM_{2.5} NAAQS that could lead to a future nonattainment designation,
- Increasing public awareness about PM_{2.5} as an air pollutant, and
- Targeting limited resources toward actions to address PM_{2.5} problems quickly.

Our goal is to implement measures and programs to reduce PM_{2.5} in Lewis & Clark County in the near term. We agree to that it is in our best interest to work together and in coordination with stakeholders and the public to proactively pursue this goal.

Please direct any questions to Eric Merchant at emerchant@mt.gov 406-444-1457 or Stephen Coe at scoe@mt.gov, 406-782-2689 ext 209.

Sincerely,

Dave Klemp Air Director

Air Resources Management Bureau

Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Melanie Reynolds M.P.H.

Health Officer

Lewis and Clark City-County Health Dep.

cc: EPA Region 8

Catherine Roberts

(303) 312-6025