



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.

Mitchell E. Daniels Jr.
Governor

Thomas W. Easterly
Commissioner

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December 7, 2010

Ms. Susan Hedman
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
77 West Jackson Boulevard, R-19J
Chicago, IL 60604-3950

Re: Recommendations Concerning Air
Quality Designations for the National
Ambient Air Quality Standard for
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)

Dear Ms. Hedman:

On January 22, 2010, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) announced a new 1-hour nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) of 100 parts per billion (ppb). U.S. EPA also retained the annual NO₂ NAAQS of 53 ppb. U.S. EPA revised the primary NO₂ NAAQS to provide the requisite protection of public health. The final rule for the NO₂ NAAQS was published on February 9, 2010 (75 FR 6474), and the standard became effective on April 12, 2010. U.S. EPA intends to propose designations in January 2012, and requests that states submit recommendations by January 22, 2011.

Enclosed are quality assured ambient air quality monitoring data for the years 2007 through 2009 for Indiana's NO₂ monitoring network. Indiana's monitored NO₂ concentrations have declined over time and all monitors meet both the annual and 1-hour NO₂ NAAQS.

To determine compliance with the new 1-hour NO₂ NAAQS, U.S. EPA has established new ambient air monitoring and reporting requirements for NO₂ in urban areas to measure peak, short-term concentrations near major roadways. New NO₂ monitors are to begin operation by no later than January 1, 2013. Two new NO₂ monitors are required near a major roadway within the Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) and one of them may be located in Indiana. One monitor is required near a major roadway within the Indianapolis-Carmel, IN CBSA. Indiana will work with U.S. EPA and Illinois on siting and installing these monitors by January 1, 2013.

States will need an additional three years after the installation of the near roadway monitors to collect air quality data in order to determine compliance with the new 1-hour NAAQS. A full set of air quality data will not be available at the new monitors until after 2015. The U.S. EPA intends to complete initial NO₂ designations by January 2012, using ambient air quality data from the current monitoring network from the years 2008 through 2010. U.S. EPA

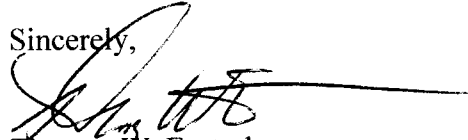
Ms. Hedman

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will designate as nonattainment any areas with NO₂ monitors recording violations of the revised NO₂ NAAQS. U.S. EPA also intends to designate all other areas of the country as unclassifiable to indicate that there is insufficient data to determine whether or not they are attaining the revised NO₂ NAAQS. Indiana's annual NO₂ ambient air quality concentrations have historically been well below the annual NO₂ NAAQS and Indiana has never monitored a violation of the annual NO₂ NAAQS. Air quality concentrations in Indiana compared to the new 1-hour NO₂ NAAQS are also well below the revised standard. Therefore, Indiana is recommending that based upon the attached monitoring data Lake, Marion, St. Joseph and Vanderburgh counties be classified as attainment and the rest of the state should be classified as unclassifiable.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations to U.S. EPA concerning the designations for the revised NO₂ NAAQS. Indiana will provide U.S. EPA with updated recommendations once 2010 NO₂ monitoring data is available. Likewise, I look forward to working with your staff as U.S. EPA moves forward with the designation process. If you have any questions regarding IDEM's analysis and recommendations, please feel free to contact me at (317) 232-8611 or Keith Baugues, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Air Quality, at (317) 232-8222.

Sincerely,



Thomas W. Easterly
Commissioner

TWE/sad/skr

cc: Cheryl L. Newton, U.S. EPA Region 5
Gilberto Alvarez, U.S. EPA Region 5
Keith Baugues, IDEM-OAQ
Scott Deloney, IDEM-OAQ
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