



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 7

11201 Renner Boulevard  
Lenexa, Kansas 66219

OFFICE OF THE  
REGIONAL  
ADMINISTRATOR

DEC 21 2015

Ms. Catherine Fitzsimmons  
Bureau Chief  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Air Quality Bureau  
7900 Hickman Road, Suite 1  
Windsor Heights, Iowa 50324

Dear Ms. Fitzsimmons:

With this letter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is taking action to approve the Iowa 2015 Ambient Air Monitoring Network Plan and Iowa's 2015 Five-Year Network Assessment. Both plans were reviewed and found to be in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Part 58.

The 2015 Ambient Air Monitoring Network Plan was submitted by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources on May 27, 2015. A 30-day public comment period was offered by IDNR starting on April 20, 2015, as required by 40 CFR Part 58. IDNR received one comment letter regarding the adequacy of the monitoring network for ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Dubuque, Iowa. IDNR responded directly to the commenter's concerns but made no change to their monitoring plan. The EPA has reviewed the comment letter and IDNR's response and found that the plan is in accordance with the requirements of Part 58.

The 2015 Five-Year Network Assessment was submitted by IDNR on June 30, 2015. The 30-day public comment period was offered by IDNR on May 29, 2015. IDNR received two comments that were not directly related to the contents of the assessment. One commenter requested the online location of the 2015 Five-Year Network Assessment, and the other commenter requested information about geoengineering in Iowa. IDNR responded directly to the commenters and no changes were made to the assessment. The EPA reviewed the comments and IDNR's responses and believe them to be appropriate.

Your air monitoring staff is to be commended for their hard work in completing these plans in a timely manner. Your actions of managing and maintaining a strong air monitoring program clearly support the EPA's strategic goal: Taking Action on Climate Change and Improving Air Quality. I am appreciative of your commitment and continued dedication to our shared mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Hague", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Hague



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