



THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 18 2017

Mr. Stephen J. Bonebrake  
Partner  
Schiff Hardin LLP  
233 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 6600  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Dear Mr. Bonebrake:

Thank you for your September 12, 2016, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy transmitting on behalf of Southern Illinois Power Cooperative a petition for reconsideration regarding the EPA's July 12, 2016, final rule titled "Air Quality Designations for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard – Round 2" (81 FR 45039). In the petition SIPC requests that the EPA reconsider the nonattainment designation for the area surrounding Marion Power Station in Williamson County, Illinois, for the 2010 SO<sub>2</sub> Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard.

As discussed more fully in the enclosures, after careful review, the EPA denies the petition for the EPA to reconsider the nonattainment designation of Williamson County for the 2010 SO<sub>2</sub> Primary NAAQS. SIPC has not demonstrated that it was impracticable to raise the objections listed in the petition by the end of the comment period or that the grounds for these objections arose after the close of the comment period but before the close of the period for judicial review. Furthermore, SIPC has not demonstrated that its objections are of central relevance to the outcome of the final rule. Therefore, the EPA concludes that SIPC's petition does not meet the criteria to warrant reconsideration and that the information it submits does not change the EPA's conclusions regarding the designation of Williamson County as nonattainment for the SO<sub>2</sub> Primary NAAQS, as determined under section 107 of the Clean Air Act.

Accordingly, the SO<sub>2</sub> nonattainment designation for Williamson County set out in the July 12, 2016, *Federal Register* remains effective. This denial of the petition for reconsideration is effective immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina McCarthy", is written over a large, stylized, looping flourish.

Gina McCarthy

Enclosures