



RECEIVED - 6PDL
AIR PLANNING SEC.

14 DEC -8 PM 6: 03

STATE OF ARKANSAS

MIKE BEEBE
GOVERNOR

December 1, 2014

Ron Curry, Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VI
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

RE: Acknowledgement of Receipt of EPA Fine Particulate (PM2.5) National
Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Area Attainment Designations
for Counties in the State of Arkansas

Dear Mr. Curry:

Thank you for your timely review and response to my previous letter concerning Fine Particulate (PM2.5) Attainment Designation Recommendations for Counties in the State of Arkansas. In that letter, I recommended that all counties in Arkansas be designated either as "attainment" (monitored and meeting the NAAQS) or "unclassifiable" (not monitored).

However, the April 16, 2013, Guidance Memorandum for PM2.5 outlines a designation description for the new PM2.5 NAAQS that varies slightly from other criteria pollutants. The formal designations, as listed in the Guidance, are "nonattainment" (not meeting the standard), "unclassifiable/attainment" (meeting the standard or expected to be meeting the standard despite a lack of monitoring data), or "unclassifiable" (insufficient data to classify).

As per your letter dated August 19, 2014, and referencing the above standards, I concur with your recommendation to modify the designations for all areas in Arkansas from either "attainment" or "unclassifiable" to "unclassifiable/attainment." Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Beebe".

Mike Beebe

MB:jb