



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

AUG 22 2017

The Honorable Muriel Bowser
Mayor of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Suite 316
Washington, District of Columbia 20004

Dear Mayor Bowser:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) proposed designations for the District of Columbia (District) for the 2010 Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for sulfur dioxide (SO₂). The designations for this NAAQS are an important part of EPA's commitment to a clean, healthy environment. These proposed designations are a response to designations-related recommendations and information submitted by the District in letters dated May 23, 2011 and November 4, 2016.

On July 25, 2013, EPA designated certain areas in 16 states as nonattainment, but did not at that time designate other areas. Additional areas were designated on June 30, 2016 and November 29, 2016. No areas in the District were designated in these previous actions. Pursuant to a March 2, 2015 court-ordered schedule,¹ EPA must complete the remaining SO₂ designations by two specific deadlines: December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2020. Pursuant to section 107(d)(1)(B)(ii) of the Clean Air Act, this letter is to notify you of EPA's assessment regarding your recommended designation for the District. EPA will promulgate the final designation for the District by December 31, 2017.

After carefully considering the District's recommendations and all available information, including current (2014-2016) air monitoring data, EPA is proposing to designate the District as indicated below. The District was not required to characterize air quality and EPA does not have information that suggests the area may not be meeting the NAAQS or contributing to air quality in a nearby area that does not meet the NAAQS.

Proposed Unclassifiable/ Attainment Area	Included Area
Washington, DC*	The Entirety of the District of Columbia

An asterisk (*) indicates that EPA's proposed designation for this area represents a modification to the designation that you have most recently recommended.

¹ *Sierra Club v. McCarthy*, No. 3-13-cv-3953 (SI) (N.D. Cal. Mar. 2, 2015).

The Technical Support Document for our proposed designations is available at <https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations>. Section 5 of Chapter 2 addresses the District.

If you or your staff have additional information that EPA should consider prior to finalizing these designations, please submit it as soon as possible but no later than October 23, 2017. You may submit additional information by sending it to EPA's public docket for these designations, EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0003, located at www.regulations.gov, and sending a copy to EPA Region III. EPA also will publish a notice in the *Federal Register* announcing a 30-day comment period for the public to provide input on EPA's proposed designations.

Thank you for the District's efforts throughout the designations process. We share your goal to provide cleaner air for citizens in the District, and we look forward to a continued dialogue with you and your staff as we work together to complete the area designations and implement the 2010 primary SO₂ NAAQS. For additional information regarding designations under the SO₂ NAAQS, please visit our website at <https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations>. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me, or have your staff contact Brian Hamilton of my staff at 215-814-5497 or hamilton.brian@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cecil Rodrigues". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cecil" and last name "Rodrigues" clearly distinguishable.

Cecil Rodrigues
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: The Honorable Tommy Wells, Director
District of Columbia Department of Energy & Environment