



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

OFFICE OF THE  
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

AUG 22 2017

The Honorable Herman G. Honanie  
Chairman  
Hopi Tribe  
Post Office Box 123  
Kykotsmovi, Arizona 86039

Dear Chairman Honanie:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) intended designation for the Hopi Tribe for the 2010 Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>). The designations for this NAAQS are an important part of the EPA's commitment to a clean, healthy environment.

On July 25, 2013, the 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 portion of your tribe's lands was designated in these previous actions. Pursuant to a March 2, 2015, court-ordered schedule,<sup>1</sup> the agency must complete the remaining SO<sub>2</sub> designations by two specific deadlines: December 31, 2017, and December 31, 2020. Accordingly, pursuant to section 107(d)(1)(B)(ii) of the Clean Air Act, this letter is to notify you of the EPA's intended designation for the lands of the Hopi Tribe.

If you or your staff have additional information that the EPA should consider prior to finalizing the designations, please submit it as soon as possible but no later than October 23, 2017. You may submit additional information by sending it to the EPA's public docket for these designations, EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0003, located at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), and sending a copy to EPA Region 9. The EPA also will publish a notice in the *Federal Register* announcing a 30-day comment period for the public to provide input on the EPA's intended designations.

After carefully considering all available information, the EPA intends to designate all lands of the Hopi Tribe as a separate unclassifiable/attainment area. This unclassifiable/attainment designation would not trigger any planning requirements under the Clean Air Act. The enclosure to this letter provides the information that supports the intended designation decision for your tribe's lands.<sup>2</sup>

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

<sup>2</sup> The enclosure is Chapter 4 of our Technical Support Document for the EPA's intended designations that addresses Arizona and the lands of the Hopi Tribe geographically located in Navajo and Coconino Counties, Arizona. The full Technical Support Document is also available at <https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations>.

The EPA will promulgate the final designations for your tribe's lands by December 31, 2017. Upon the completion of this designation action, there will be no remaining areas of your tribe's lands to be designated.

We share your goal to provide cleaner air for members of your tribe. For additional information regarding designations under the SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS, please visit our website at <https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations>. Should you have any questions or if you would like a briefing or to engage in consultation, please do not hesitate to call me, or have your staff contact Meredith Kurpius at (415) 947-4534 or [kurpius.meredith@epa.gov](mailto:kurpius.meredith@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

  
for Alexis Strauss  
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Gayl Honanie, Director, Hopi Department of Natural Resources