



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

AUG 22 2017

The Honorable Terry McAuliffe
 Governor of Virginia
 Patrick Henry Building, 3rd Floor
 1111 East Broad Street
 Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor McAuliffe:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) proposed designations for certain areas in the Commonwealth of Virginia (Virginia) 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 Virginia submitted in letters dated June 2, 2011 and January 11, 2017.

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 Virginia 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 (CAA), this letter is to notify you of EPA’s proposal regarding Virginia’s recommended designations for all remaining undesignated areas in Virginia. EPA will promulgate the final designations for the areas identified in this letter by December 31, 2017. Areas that are associated with sources for which Virginia elected to install and begin operating a new SO₂ monitoring network will be designated by December 31, 2020, consistent with the prescribed timing of the consent order. In Virginia, this applies to Botetourt County, Alleghany County, City of Covington, and Giles County.

After carefully considering Virginia’s recommendations and all available information, including any air dispersion modeling analysis and current (2014-2016) air monitoring data, EPA proposes to designate the following areas as indicated below. EPA regulations for implementing the SO₂ NAAQS require Virginia to characterize SO₂ air quality in each of these listed areas. EPA proposed to designate each listed area as a separate unclassifiable or unclassifiable/attainment area, as indicated.

Proposed Unclassifiable Area	Included County or City
Buchanan*	Buchanan County

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

Proposed Unclassifiable/Attainment Area	Included County or City
Charlotte	Charlotte County
Charles City	Charles City County
Chesterfield	Chesterfield County
City of Colonial Heights	City of Colonial Heights
City of Hampton	City of Hampton
City of Hopewell	City of Hopewell
City of Newport News	City of Newport News
City of Petersburg	City of Petersburg
City of Poquoson	City of Poquoson
City of Richmond	City of Richmond
Halifax	Halifax County
Henrico	Henrico County
Mecklenburg	Mecklenburg County
York	York County

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

The Technical Support Document for our proposed designations is available at <https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations>. Chapter 41 of the document addresses the Commonwealth of Virginia.

In addition, EPA proposes to designate as unclassifiable/attainment all remaining areas of Virginia that were not required to be characterized and for which 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. A list of these remaining areas is included in the Enclosure.

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 Virginia's efforts throughout the designations process. We share your goal to provide cleaner air for citizens in Virginia, 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,



Cecil Rodrigues
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Molly Ward, Secretary
Natural Resources

Enclosure

List of all remaining areas of Virginia that were not required to be characterized and for which 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. EPA proposes to designate each of these areas as a separate unclassifiable/attainment area.

Proposed Unclassifiable/Attainment Area	Included County or City
Accomack*	Accomack County
Albermarle*	Albermarle County
Amelia*	Amelia County
Amherst*	Amherst County
Appomattox*	Appomattox County
Arlington*	Arlington County
Augusta*	August County
Bath*	Bath County
Bedford*	Bedford County
Bland*	Bland County
Brunswick*	Brunswick County
Buckingham*	Buckingham County
Campbell*	Campbell County
Caroline*	Caroline County
Carroll*	Carroll County
Clarke*	Clarke County
Craig*	Craig County
Culpeper*	Culpeper County
Cumberland*	Cumberland County
Dickenson*	Dickenson County
Dinwiddie*	Dinwiddie County
Essex*	Essex County
Fairfax	Fairfax County
Fauquier*	Fauquier County

Floyd*	Floyd County
Fluvanna*	Fluvanna County
Franklin*	Franklin County
Frederick*	Frederick County
Gloucester*	Gloucester County
Goochland*	Goochland County
Grayson*	Grayson County
Greene*	Greene County
Greensville*	Greensville County
Hanover*	Hanover County
Henry*	Henry County
Highland*	Highland County
Isle of Wight*	Isle of Wight County
James City County*	James City County
King and Queen*	King and Queen County
King George*	King George County
King William*	King William County
Lancaster*	Lancaster County
Lee*	Lee County
Loudoun*	Loudoun County
Louisa*	Louisa County
Lunenburg*	Lunenburg County
Madison*	Madison County
Mathews*	Mathews County
Middlesex*	Middlesex County
Montgomery*	Montgomery County
Nelson*	Nelson County
New Kent*	New Kent County
Northampton*	Northampton County
Northumberland*	Northumberland County

Nottoway*	Nottoway County
Orange*	Orange County
Page*	Page County
Patrick*	Patrick County
Pittsylvania*	Pittsylvania County
Powhatan*	Powhatan County
Prince Edward*	Prince Edward County
Prince George*	Prince George County
Prince William*	Prince William County
Pulaski*	Pulaski County
Rappahannock*	Rappahannock County
Richmond*	Richmond County
Roanoke	Roanoke County
Rockbridge*	Rockbridge County
Rockingham	Rockingham County
Russell*	Russell County
Scott*	Scott County
Shenandoah*	Shenandoah County
Smyth*	Smyth County
Southampton*	Southampton County
Spotsylvania*	Spotsylvania County
Stafford*	Stafford County
Surry*	Surry County
Sussex*	Sussex County
Tazewell*	Tazewell County
Warren*	Warren County
Washington*	Washington County
Westmoreland*	Westmoreland County
Wise*	Wise County
Wythe*	Wythe County

Alexandria City*	Alexandria City
Bedford City*	Bedford City
Bristol City*	Bristol City
Buena Vista City*	Buena Vista City
Charlottesville City*	Charlottesville City
Chesapeake City*	Chesapeake City
Danville City*	Danville City
Emporia City*	Emporia City
Fairfax City*	Fairfax City
Falls Church City*	Falls Church City
Franklin City*	Franklin City
Fredericksburg City*	Fredericksburg City
Galax City*	Galax City
Harrisonburg City*	Harrisonburg City
Lexington City*	Lexington City
Lynchburg City*	Lynchburg City
Manassas City*	Manassas City
Manassas Park City*	Manassas Park City
Martinsville City*	Martinsville City
Norfolk City	Norfolk City
Norton City*	Norton City
Portsmouth City*	Portsmouth City
Radford City*	Radford City
Roanoke City*	Roanoke City
Salem City*	Salem City
Staunton City*	Staunton City
Suffolk City*	Suffolk City
Virginia Beach City*	Virginia Beach City
Waynesboro City*	Waynesboro City
Williamsburg City*	Williamsburg City

Winchester City*	Winchester City
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An asterisk (*) indicates that the proposed designation for this county represents a modification to the designation that Virginia has most recently recommended.

