



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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DEC 20 2017

Ref: 8P-AR

The Honorable Matthew Mead
State Capitol Building
2323 Carey Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0010

Dear Governor Mead:

Thank you for your recommendation dated September 29, 2016, on air quality designations for the revised 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone throughout Wyoming. I appreciate the information Wyoming has shared with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as we move forward to improve ozone air quality. This letter is to notify you of the EPA's preliminary response to Wyoming's recommendations for areas that the EPA did not address in our initial November 16, 2017 designations, and to inform you of our approach for completing designations for the revised ozone standards.

In the EPA's initial November 16, 2017 designations, most counties in Wyoming were designated Attainment/Unclassifiable. However, since Albany County and Laramie County were adjacent to counties with violating monitors in Colorado, they were deferred. After considering Wyoming's September 23, 2016 ozone designation recommendations, the EPA intends to designate both Albany and Laramie Counties as Attainment/Unclassifiable for the 2015 ozone NAAQS.

The EPA will make its preliminary designation decisions and supporting documentation available to the general public for review and comment. We will be announcing a 30-day public comment period shortly in the *Federal Register*. After considering additional information we receive, the EPA plans to promulgate final ozone designations in the spring of 2018.

The EPA is committed to working with the states and tribes to reduce ozone air pollution. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of your staff may contact Monica Morales, Region 8's Air Program Director, at (303) 312-6936.

Sincerely,

 Douglas H. Benevento
Regional Administrator