



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

OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable David Y. Ige
Governor of Hawaii
Executive Chambers
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Governor Ige:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) intended designation for the remaining undesignated area in Hawaii for the 2010 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) primary national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS). In accordance with section 107(d)(1)(B)(ii) of the Clean Air Act (CAA), EPA is providing you with 120 days' notice before promulgating final designations for an area in Hawaii. The designations for this NAAQS are an important part of EPA's commitment to a clean, healthy environment. EPA's intended designations are a response to, and in consideration of, the recommendations and designations-related information your state submitted in a letter dated May 19, 2011.¹

In previous final actions, EPA issued designations for the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS for most areas of the country.² To meet the requirements of a March 2, 2015 schedule ordered by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, by December 31, 2020, EPA will sign for publication in the *Federal Register*, a notice promulgating designations for all remaining areas of the country.³ We are referring to this final set of designations for the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS as "Round 4" designations. After EPA completes these Round 4 designations, there will be no remaining undesignated areas for the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS in the United States.

After carefully considering Hawaii's recommendation and all available information, particularly, but not limited to, the most recent (2017-2019) air monitoring data, EPA intends to designate the following area in Hawaii as shown in the table below. The enclosure to this letter provides the technical information that supports EPA's intended designation decisions for this area in Hawaii.⁴

¹ The Hawaii Department of Health also provided supplemental information relevant to these designations in letters and other correspondence dated August 24, 2015, August 27, 2015, and May 9, 2016.

² Most areas of the U.S. were previously designated in actions published on August 5, 2013 (78 FR 47191), July 12, 2016 (81 FR 45039), December 13, 2016 (81 FR 89870), December 21, 2017 (83 FR 1098), and March 28, 2018 (83 FR 14597). The EPA is not reopening these previous designation actions in this current Round 4 of designations under the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS, except where specifically discussed.

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

⁴ Enclosure includes *Chapter #1: Background and History* and *Chapter #2: Designations for Areas without Violating Monitors* of the Technical Support Document.

Area	Included Counties	EPA's Intended Designation
Honolulu County	Honolulu County	Attainment/Unclassifiable*

An asterisk (*) indicates that the EPA's intended designation for this county represents a modification to the designation that you have recommended in your May 19, 2011 letter. Our intended action, which differs from your recommended designation of unclassifiable, is based on current air monitoring data indicating attainment of the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS. We invite Hawaii to review the available information and further discuss this issue with EPA to inform an appropriate final designation for the area. EPA is available to assist and hopes to resolve any differences regarding the appropriate designation for this area within the 120-day period provided by the CAA.

EPA will publish a notice in the *Federal Register* announcing a 30-day public comment period for the interested parties to provide feedback on EPA's intended designations. States will have additional time beyond the public comment period to respond to public comments, if necessary, and/or provide additional information. If you or your staff have additional information that EPA should review and consider prior to promulgating final designations, please submit it as soon as possible but no later than October 16, 2020. You may submit additional information to EPA's public docket for these designations, Docket# EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-0037, located at www.regulations.gov. Please also send an electronic copy to the EPA Region IX staff member whose contact information I have included below.

Thank you for Hawaii's efforts to provide cleaner air for the citizens in your state. 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 SO₂ NAAQS. For additional information regarding designations under the 2010 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 the Air & Radiation Division Director, Elizabeth Adams, at 415-972-3183, or have your staff contact Anita Lee at lee.anita@epa.gov, or at 415-972-3958.

Sincerely,

Deborah Jordan
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Bruce S. Anderson, Director, Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH)
Keith Kawaoka, Deputy Director for Environmental Health, HDOH
Marianne Fuji Rossio, Clean Air Branch, HDOH