



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

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Ref: 8P-AR

AUG 18 2008



The Honorable Dave Freudenthal
Governor of Wyoming
200 W. 24th St.
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0010

Dear Governor Freudenthal:

Thank you for your recommendations on the status of fine particle pollution throughout Wyoming.

We have reviewed the December 11, 2007 letter from you submitting Wyoming's recommendations on air quality designations for the 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} standards. We have also reviewed the technical information submitted to support Wyoming's recommendations. We appreciate the effort your State has made to develop this supporting information. Consistent with the Clean Air Act, this letter is to inform you that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) agrees that your entire State is in attainment at this time. This means that across your State, all areas meet the 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} standards. This is truly good news for the residents of Wyoming.

Fine-particle pollution represents one of the most significant barriers to clean air facing our nation today. Health studies link these tiny particles – about 1/30th the diameter of a human hair – to serious human health problems including aggravated asthma, increased respiratory symptoms like coughing and difficult or painful breathing, chronic bronchitis, decreased lung function, and even premature death in people with heart and lung disease. Fine particle pollution can remain suspended in the air for long periods of time and create public health problems far away from emission sources. Reducing levels of fine-particle PM_{2.5} pollution is an important part of our nation's commitment to clean, healthy air.

We intend to make final designation decisions for the 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} standards by December 18, 2008. Please also be aware that in the near future, EPA is planning to publish a notice in the Federal Register to solicit public comments on our intended designation decisions.

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or your staff may call Catherine Roberts, Particulate Matter Program Coordinator at 303-312-6025. We look forward to a continued dialogue with you as we work together to implement the PM_{2.5} standards.

Sincerely,



Carol Rushin
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: John Corra, Director, Department of Environmental Quality
David A. Finley, Administrator, Air Quality Program

*Fixed to Tom Anderson
copy to Paige Smith*



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