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

The Honorable Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.  
Governor of Maryland  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

MAR 05 2004

Dear Governor Ehrlich:

Thank you for your recent letter of February 23, 2004 forwarding Maryland's recommendations on air quality designations for the national health based standard for fine particles.

Your letter is an important step toward providing citizens in your state with critical information about air pollution levels in their community. We intend to carefully review the recommendations and work with the Department of Environment as necessary in determining final boundaries for your nonattainment areas.

We look forward to working with Maryland in the coming months on designations for the fine particle standards. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or Judith M. Katz, Director, Air Protection Division, at (215) 814-2100.

Sincerely,

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Donald S. Welsh  
Regional Administrator

cc: The Honorable Kendl P. Philbrick, Acting Secretary, MDE  
Thomas Synder, ARMA Director, MDE