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

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The Honorable Edward G. Rendell Governor of Pennsylvania 225 Main Capitol Building Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

Thank you for your recent letter of February 25, 2004 from Kathleen A. McGinty, Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection, forwarding Pennsylvania's recommendations on air quality designations for the national health based standards 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 Environmental Protection as necessary in determining final designations.

We look forward to working with Pennsylvania 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 of the Air Protection Division, at (215) 814-2100.

Sincerely,

Donald S. Welsh Regional Administrator

Donald S. Welsh

cc: The Honorable Kathleen A. McGinty, Secretary, PADEP Nicholas DiPasquale, Deputy Secretary for Air, PADEP Joyce Epps, Director of Air Quality, PADEP