

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street

1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

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The Honorable Bob Wise Governor of West Virginia 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Charleston, West Virginia 26301

Dear Governor Wise:

Thank you for the letter dated February 13, 2005 from Stephanie Timmermeyer forwarding West Virginia'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 boundaries for your nonattainment areas.

We look forward to working with West Virginia 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,

Donald S. Welsh Regional Administrator

Donald Welsh

cc: The Honorable Stephanie Timmermeyer, Secretary, WVDEP John A. Benedict, Director, WVDEP