

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF MONTANA

JUDY MARTZ
GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL
PO Box 200801
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-0801

February 25, 2004

Robert E. Roberts
Regional Administrator
EPA Region VIII
999 18th Street, Suite 500
Denver, Colorado 80202-2405

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Pursuant to the Environmental Protection Agency memorandum from Jeffrey R. Holmstead dated April 1, 2003, Montana submits the following designations for particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5 microns and less (PM-2.5) national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for geographic areas within the state.

The Clean Air Act (CAA), 42 USC §7407, directs governors to submit a list of geographic areas designated as nonattainment, attainment, or unclassifiable for compliance with NAAQS. Montana establishes geographic areas defined by 10,000-meter grid (Grid) intervals using the Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) spatial referencing system.

Montana hereby designates Lincoln County (part) as nonattainment for PM-2.5 NAAQS. Identification of the UTM Grids comprising the Libby PM-2.5 nonattainment boundary will be forthcoming pending the results of additional monitoring and a chemical mass balance study. These results will allow Montana to determine an appropriate boundary according to factors provided by EPA guidance. Montana hereby designates each remaining individual UTM Grid within the state as attainment/unclassifiable for PM-2.5. These designations are summarized in Attachment 1.

Recently, commissioners from Lincoln County approached my office requesting an administrative alternative to a designation of nonattainment for the Libby area. After speaking with members of your staff, Montana acknowledges EPA's view regarding the process for initial designations of standards.

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Montana is committed to protecting public health and will continue to work closely with your staff on these designations. Should you have any questions, please contact Trista Glazier, Department of Environmental Quality, at (406) 444-3403.

Sincerely,



JUDY MARTZ
Governor

Enclosure

c: Jan Sensibaugh, DEQ
Trista Glazier, DEQ

ATTACHMENT 1

MONTANA DESIGNATIONS FOR PM-2.5 NAAQS 49 CFR PART 81.327

February 13, 2004

Montana -- PM-2.5

Designated Area	Designation	
	Date	Type
Lincoln County, Libby and vicinity (UTM Grids to be identified) <u>Remainder of state defined by discrete areas at 10,000-meter grid intervals as defined by the Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinate system with the exception of any grid area coordinate, or portion thereof, contained in any nonattainment area, Indian reservation, adjacent state, or nation.</u>		Nonattainment Unclassifiable / Attainment