



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MARGARET WOOD HASSAN
Governor

February 19, 2014

Mr. Curt Spalding
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: Designation of New Hampshire's Attainment Area Status under the Revised Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}) Standard

Dear Mr. Spalding:

As required by the Clean Air Act and the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, I hereby recommend that all of New Hampshire be designated as in attainment for the annual National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ground-level fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}). Based on current certified and quality-assured monitoring data, all areas of New Hampshire attained the level of the 2012 standard for the 2009 to 2011 time period.

On December 14, 2012, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgated a revised primary annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS, strengthening it from 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to 12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The primary 24-hour and secondary forms of the PM_{2.5} were retained without change, as was the 24-hour PM₁₀ NAAQS. As specified by EPA guidance dated April 16, 2013, and in accordance with 40 CFR Part 58, my current PM_{2.5} designation recommendation is based on monitoring data for the most recent three-year period (2010 through 2012) from the State's network of Federal Reference Method (FRM) and Federal Equivalent Method (FEM) monitors. This recommendation was then checked against the corresponding monitoring data for 2009 to 2011 to ensure consistency of results (see Table 1 below). No portion of New Hampshire was found to be at risk for exceeding the revised annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS. Further, after review of nearby states' current PM_{2.5} data, we find my recommendation fully compliant with Section 107(d)(1)(A) of the Clean Air Act (CAA).

TABLE 1. Annual PM_{2.5} Design Values (2009-2012) by Monitor, micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m³)

Location/ Reference Method	Monitor ID	2009 Annual	2010 Annual	2011 Annual	2012 Annual	2009- 2011 Design Value	2010- 2012 Design Value	PM _{2.5} NAAQS
Keene FEM FRM	33-005-0007	10.5	8.3	10.2	8.9	9.7	9.1	12
		10.1	8.3	8.9	9.5	9.1	8.9	
Laconia FRM	33-001-2004	6.0	5.4	6.0	6.6	5.8	6.0	12
Lebanon FEM FRM	33-009-0010	6.6	6.6	7.5	6.3	6.9	6.8	12
		--	--	6.7	6.8	--	6.7**	
Londonderry FEM FRM		--	--	7.1*	6.3	--	6.7**	12
		--	--	6.5	6.9	--	6.7**	
Miller State Park (Pack Monadnock Mt) FEM FRM	33-011-5001	--	--	5.1	4.2	--	4.7**	12
		--	--	4.9	4.9	--	4.9**	
Nashua FRM	33-011-1015	7.8	7.8	7.4	8.2	7.7	7.8	12
Pembroke FRM	33-013-1006	8.3	8.6	9.0	8.6	8.6	8.7	12
Portsmouth FEM FRM	33-015-0014	--	6.8*	8.6	6.5*	7.7**	7.3*	12
		7.1	7.4*	6.5	7.7	7.0*	7.2*	
State Maximum	--	10.5	8.6	10.2	9.5	9.7	9.1	12

* - Data set does not meet minimum criteria.

** - Estimated design value is based on 2-years of data.

TABLE 2. Proposed Designation of Areas for Annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS Nonattainment in New Hampshire

NEW HAMPSHIRE – PM_{2.5} (ANNUAL STANDARD)

Designated Area	Designation	Classification
	Type	Type
New Hampshire: None	Nonattainment	--
All portions of all counties	Attainment	Attainment

Thank you for your consideration of my recommendations. If you have any questions regarding this determination, please contact Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, at (603) 271-3449.

With every good wish,



Margaret Wood Hassan
Governor

Cc: Thomas Burack, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services