



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

Department of Planning & Natural Resources  
Division of Environmental Protection  
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February 17, 2004

Jane M. Kenny  
Regional Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 2  
290 Broadway  
New York, NY 10007-1866

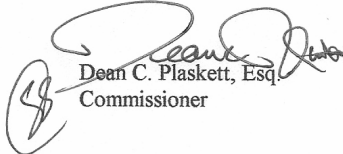
**Subject:** Classification of Attainment: PM<sub>2.5</sub>

Dear Administrator Kenny:

The Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR), conducts Particulate Matter-2.5 (an aero-diameter of two and a half microns or less) (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) sampling on the islands of St. Croix and St. Thomas, which are categorized as counties. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> program was initiated in 1999 on St. Croix. Another site was added to the network on St. Thomas in 2000.

All PM<sub>2.5</sub> data collected in the Territory of the Virgin Islands from 2000 to 2003 rank far below two EPA standards for fine particles: an annual standard, at 15 micrograms per cubic meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ); and a 24-hour PM standard, at 65  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . Based on the low PM<sub>2.5</sub> reported concentrations, DPNR recommends a **classification of attainment** in regards to the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for fine particulate matter.

Sincerely,

  
Dean C. Plaskett, Esq.  
Commissioner