



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII  
901 NORTH 5TH STREET  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

09 MAR 2004

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack  
Governor of Iowa  
State Capitol Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Governor Vilsack:

Thank you for your recent letter of January 20, 2004, forwarding Iowa's recommendations on air quality designations for the national health based standards for fine particles also known as (PM<sub>2.5</sub>).

Your letter is an important step toward providing citizens in your state with critical information about air pollution levels in their community. Your recommendation of attainment is based on air quality PM<sub>2.5</sub> data from 2000-2002. We intend to carefully review your recommendation with up to date PM<sub>2.5</sub> ambient data in determining final designations. Final designations for PM<sub>2.5</sub> will be made by the United States Environmental Protection Agency by December 31, 2004.

We look forward to working with Iowa in the coming months on designations for the fine particle standards. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call William A. Spratlin, Director of the Air, RCRA and Toxics Division, who may be reached at (913) 551-7401.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James B. Gulliford".

James B. Gulliford  
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Jeff Vonk  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Mr. Wayne Gieselman  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources