



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



September 3, 2008

Air Docket
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code 6102T
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460
Attention: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2007-0562
a-and-r-docket@epa.gov

Re: EPA Responses to State and Tribal 2006 24-Hour PM_{2.5} Designation Recommendations

Dear Docket Administrator:

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP) has reviewed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) response to Connecticut's recommended designations for the 2006 24-hour fine particle (PM_{2.5}) national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS). CTDEP is pleased that EPA concurs with CTDEP's recommended designations and boundaries.

We are also pleased that EPA's analysis of the meteorological air flow patterns for Connecticut recognizes that PM_{2.5} emissions during high PM_{2.5} days primarily originate from locations outside of Connecticut. To better reduce PM_{2.5} levels and comply with the 2006 NAAQS, we need EPA's help, especially in light of the recent vacatur of the CAIR rule, which places anticipated upwind reductions in sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides in jeopardy. As we have noted in other correspondence, effective federal management of long-range air pollution transport is key for Connecticut and other northeast states to meet the PM_{2.5} NAAQS and other environmental goals.

We note one inaccuracy on page 3 of EPA's response to Connecticut's recommended designations. The response refers to the 1997 PM_{2.5} NAAQS nonattainment boundary for the New York City metropolitan area as including Hartford and Fairfield Counties in Connecticut. Rather, the New York City metropolitan area included **New Haven** and Fairfield Counties in Connecticut. We hope you will correct the record in this respect to avoid any confusion in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on EPA's response. If you or members of your staff have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Michael Geigert at 860-424-3509.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anne R. Gobin".

Anne R. Gobin, Chief
Bureau of Air Management