

JAMES H. DOUGLAS
GOVERNOR



State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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TO: David Conroy - EPA New England

FAX NO. 617 - 918 - 0661

FROM: David Coriell

DATE: 1/17/08

RE: Letter for Administrator Varney

NUMBER OF PAGES TRANSMITTED, INCLUDING COVER SHEET 6

JAMES H. DOUGLAS
GOVERNOR



State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

January 16, 2008

The Honorable Robert W. Varney
Regional Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency, New England Office
1 Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023

Dear Administrator Varney:

In accord with the requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA) pertaining to designations for the revised national ambient air quality standards for particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) adopted by EPA on December 18, 2006, this letter fulfills my obligation to identify areas of Vermont which have ambient air quality levels greater than the standards. I am pleased to be able to recommend that all of Vermont's fourteen counties be designated as attainment for the 24-hour standard. As EPA is aware, Vermont has been in attainment in all counties of the state for both the annual and 24-hour standards for PM_{2.5}. When EPA retained the current annual standard and revised the 24-hour standard, the CAA required Vermont to re-evaluate its ambient monitoring data for the most recent three year period and to make recommendations to EPA regarding the status of all areas of Vermont with respect to the revised standard.

The State of Vermont has used data from federal reference method fine particulate matter monitors located in Bennington, Rutland and Burlington for the years 2004 through 2006 in arriving at our recommendations to EPA. These monitoring locations span the state in a north/south direction. The attached map and charts show the locations spatially and summarize the levels of the ambient air quality measurements for PM_{2.5} at these three sites. These sites are considered to be representative of the locations with the highest potential to experience either the largest transported component of fine particles into Vermont or the most significant locally generated fine particulate matter air pollution within the state. The fact that these three sites all indicate the state is attaining the revised national air quality standard recently established by EPA for PM_{2.5} leads us to be confident that all other locations throughout the state are also attaining this revised 24-hour standard as well as the previously adopted annual standard.

Fine particulate air pollution is a major cause of respiratory and heart related health conditions throughout the northeast. The recently adopted national program (CAIR) to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions that form fine particulate matter which is transported on air currents to the northeast from currently uncontrolled coal-fired power plants in the eastern U.S. is a welcome step to help reduce these health effects. Pending efforts to implement additional control of sources of fine particulate matter for improving visibility in our pristine areas will also be beneficial to the health of all citizens in the northeast.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James H. Douglas", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

James H. Douglas
Governor of Vermont

cc: David Conroy, EPA New England (w/enclosure)

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State of Vermont

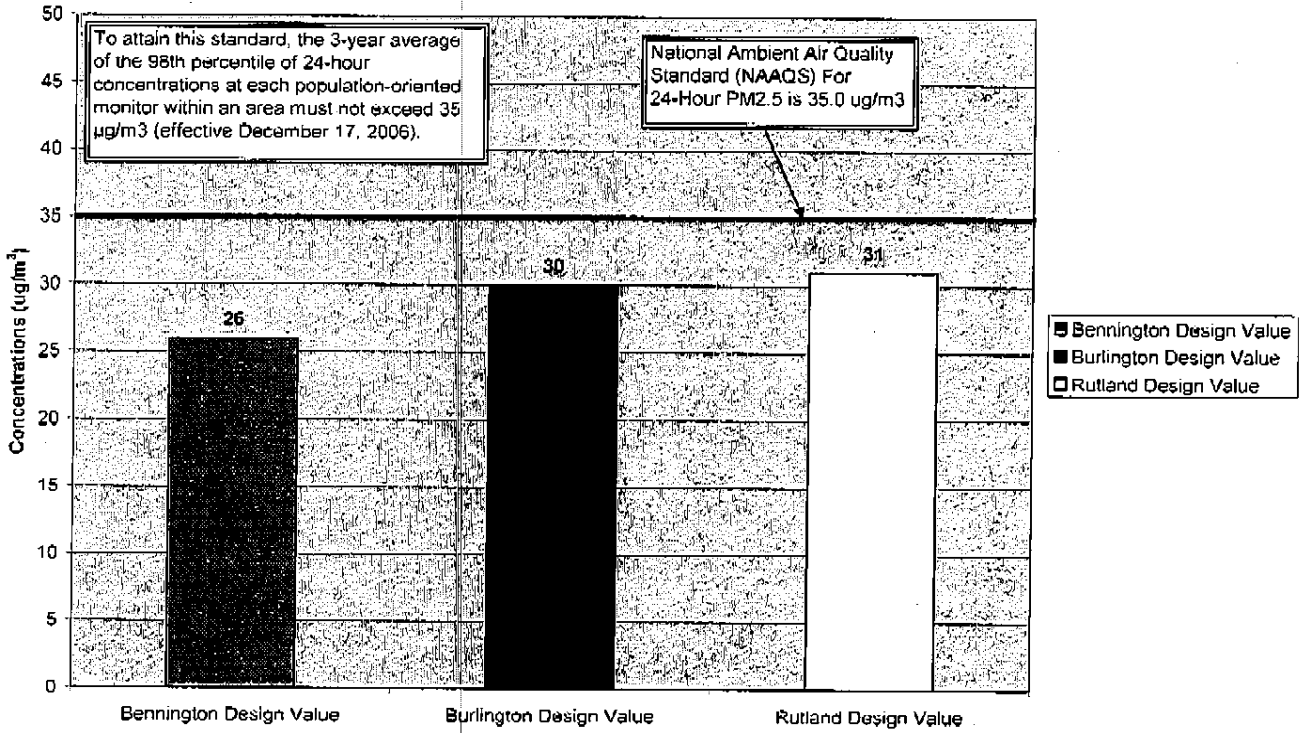
Recommended Designations under CAA Section 107(d)
For PM_{2.5} NAAQS adopted by EPA on December 18, 2006

December 4, 2007

<u>Pollutant</u>	<u>Designated Area</u>	<u>Non-Attainment</u>	<u>Attainment</u>
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Addison County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Bennington County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Caledonia County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Chittenden County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Essex County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Franklin County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Grande Isle County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Lamoille County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Orange County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Orleans County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Rutland County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Washington County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Windham County		X
24-Hour PM _{2.5}	Windsor County		X
Annual PM _{2.5}	ALL Counties of Vermont		X

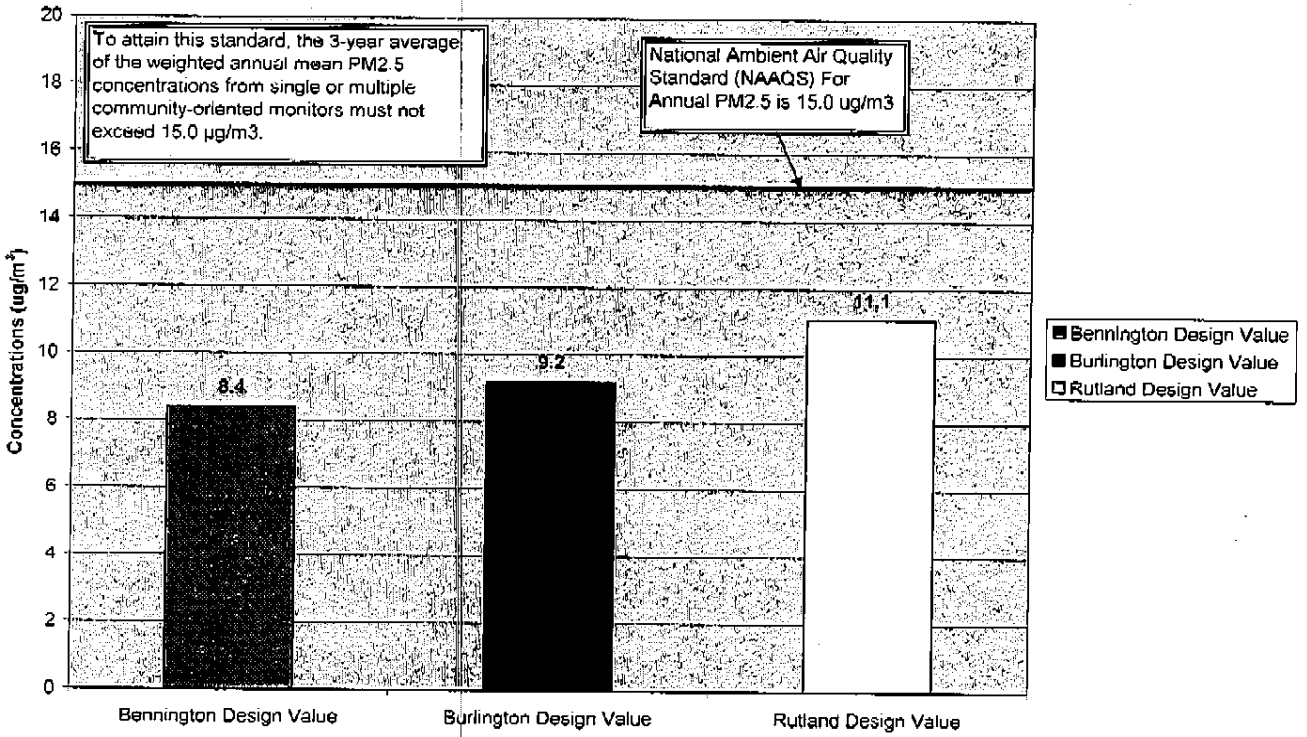
Attachment 1

State of Vermont PM2.5 24 Hour Design Values For 2004-2006 All Values Reported in Micrograms Per Cubic Meter



Attachment 2

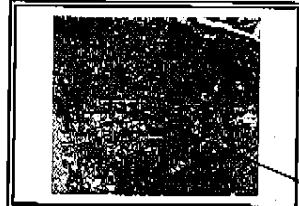
State of Vermont PM2.5 Annual Design Values For 2004-2006
All Values Reported in Micrograms Per Cubic Meter



**Attachment 3: Vermont PM2.5 Monitoring Network Locations
NAAQS Design Values
2004-2006**

NAAQS 24 Hour Standard = 35 ug/m3 (Effective Dec 17, 2006)
NAAQS Annual Standard = 15 ug/m3

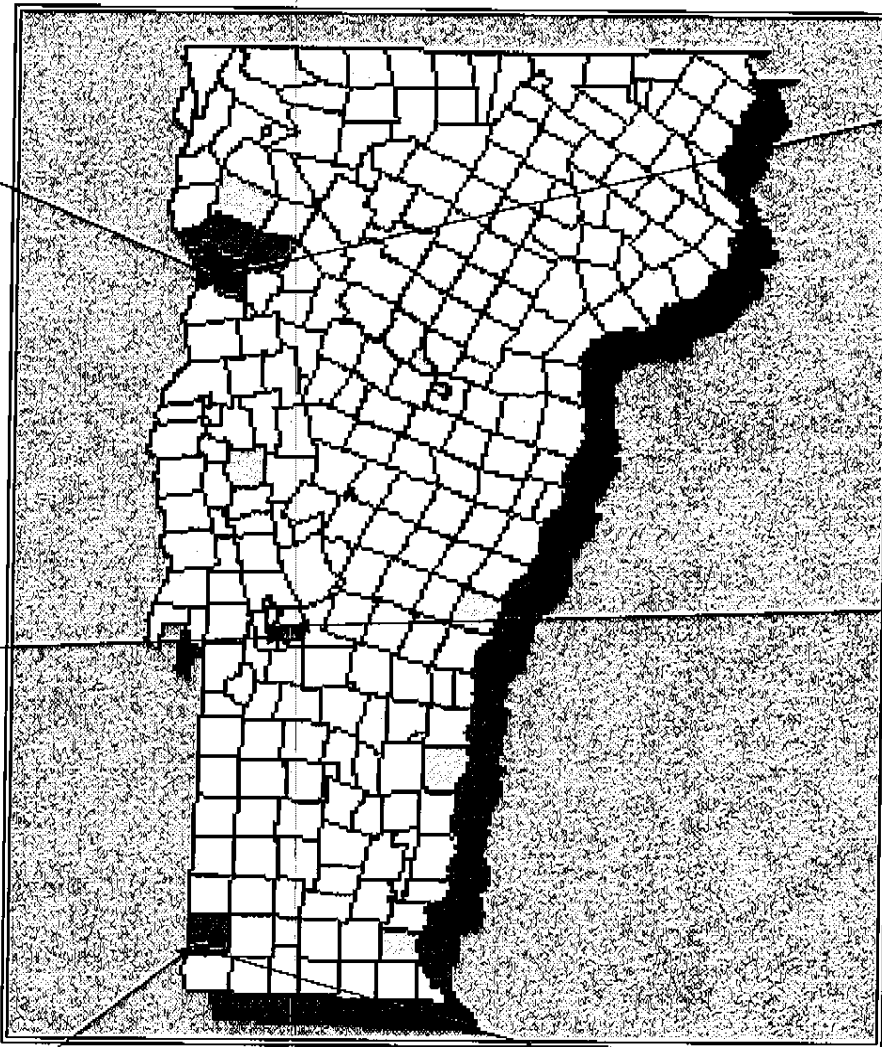
**Burlington – Zampieric Building
PM2.5 FRM**



**Rutland – Rutland Court House
PM2.5 FRM**



**Bennington – Morse Airport
PM2.5 FRM**



**Burlington 2004-2006
24 Hour Design Value
=30 ug/m3
Burlington 2004-2006
Annual Design Value
=9.2 ug/m3**

**Rutland 2004-2006
24 Hour Design Value
=31 ug/m3
Rutland 2004-2006
Annual Design Value
=11.1 ug/m3**

**Bennington 2004-2006
24 Hour Design Value
=26 ug/m3
Bennington 2004-2006
Annual Design Value
=8.4 ug/m3**

To attain the NAAQS 24 Hour standard, the 3-year average of the 98th percentile of 24-hour concentrations at each population-oriented monitor within an area must not exceed 35 ug/m3 (effective December 17, 2006).

To attain the NAAQS Annual standard, the 3-year average of the weighted annual mean PM2.5 concentrations from single or multiple community-oriented monitors must not exceed 15.0 ug/m3.