



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

August 21, 2008

OFFICE OF THE  
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Felix P. Camacho, Governor  
Territory of Guam  
P.O. Box 2950  
Hagatna, Guam 96932

Dear Governor Camacho:

This letter is to advise you that EPA intends to designate the Territory of Guam as attainment/unclassifiable for the 2006 24-hour fine particle (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) health standard. We are aware that there currently are no PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors in Guam and therefore, lacking data, EPA will use the attainment/unclassifiable designation for your area. This designation will not impose on Guam any additional responsibilities with regard to the revised fine particle standard. The designation for Guam will appear in Part 81 of the Code of Federal Regulations. If you would like to provide additional information about the PM<sub>2.5</sub> status of Guam, please provide it to us by October 20, 2008.

Although Guam does not currently have monitors for fine particulates, we think the population in the Guam would be interested to learn that fine particle pollution represents one of the most significant barriers to clean air facing our nation today. Health studies link these tiny particles – about 1/30<sup>th</sup> the diameter of a human hair – to serious human health problems including aggravated asthma, increased respiratory symptoms such as coughing and difficult or painful breathing, chronic bronchitis, decreased lung function, and even premature death in people with heart and lung disease. Fine particle pollution can remain suspended in the air for long periods of time and create public health problems far away from emission sources. Reducing levels of fine-particle (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) pollution is an important part of our nation's commitment to clean, healthy air.

We intend to make final designation decisions for the 2006 24-hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards by December 18, 2008. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact Deborah Jordan, Air Division Director, at 415-947-8715. We look forward to a continued dialogue with you as we work together to implement the PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Nastri".

Wayne Nastri  
Regional Administrator

cc: Lorilee T. Crisostomo, Administrator, Guam Environmental Protection Agency