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State of New Mexico

Susana Martinez
Governor

December 6, 2013

Mr. Ron Curry, Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VI (6-RA)
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

SUBJECT: 2012 Revised Primary Annual Fine Particle (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) Area Attainment Designation Recommendation for Bernalillo County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Curry,

On December 14, 2012, EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson signed the revised primary annual fine particle (PM_{2.5}) NAAQS [78 FR 3086, published on January 15, 2013]. In that action, the EPA revised the primary annual PM_{2.5} standard, strengthening it from 15.0 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) to 12.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; retained the existing 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard at 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; retained the existing 24-hour PM₁₀ (coarse particle) standard at 150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; and retained the current suite of secondary PM standards. Section 107(d)(1) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) stipulates that all state governors must submit initial designation recommendations within one year of the promulgation of any new or revised NAAQS. Therefore, this letter fulfills the Governor's requirement to provide the recommendation for initial designation to EPA by December 14, 2013 as it applies to Bernalillo County.

In conjunction with this revised standard, the EPA has finalized a phased schedule for deployment of the PM_{2.5} monitors at near-road stations and required collocation of a minimum of one PM_{2.5} monitor in each Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) with a population greater than or equal to 2.5 million with a near-road NO₂ monitoring station by January 1, 2015. PM_{2.5} monitors at near-road stations must be collocated and operational at the remaining CBSAs (i.e., those CBSAs with populations greater than or equal to 1 million, but less than 2.5 million) by January 1, 2017. The population of the CBSA encompassing Bernalillo County is approximately 845,913 (2008 Census Bureau estimate). Therefore, the City of Albuquerque's Air Quality Division (AQD) is not required to install any new PM_{2.5} monitors.

*Mr. Ron Curry
Air Attainment Designation
December 6, 2013*

The AQD evaluated ambient monitoring data from 2010 through 2012 with respect to this revised NAAQS. The design value for the primary annual PM_{2.5} standard, calendar year 2012 (evaluating years 2010-2012) was 6.5 µg/m³, placing Albuquerque - Bernalillo County at 54.2% of the standard. Hence, all areas of Bernalillo County, New Mexico under the jurisdiction of the AQD, as the agent for the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Air Quality Control Board, comply with the revised NAAQS. Therefore, I recommend attainment status for all areas of Bernalillo County, New Mexico.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Susana Martinez
Governor

cc: Ryan, Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department
Michael Vonderheide, Director, Environmental Protection Division, NMED
Richard Goodyear, Acting Chief, Air Quality Bureau, NMED
Mayor Richard J. Berry, City of Albuquerque
Mary Lou Leonard, Director, Albuquerque Environmental Health Department
Danny Nevarez, Acting Deputy Director, Albuquerque EHD
Margaret Nieto, Control Strategies Section Supervisor, Air Quality Division, EHD
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Dr. Dona Upson, Chair, Albuquerque - Bernalillo County Air Quality Control Board