

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27711

SEP 2 4 2012

OFFICE OF AIR QUALITY PLANNING AND STANDARDS

Dr. Sheela Sathyanarayana University of Washington Department of Pediatrics Seattle Children's Research Institute 2001 8th Avenue Seattle, Washington 98101

Dear Dr. Sathyanarayana:

Thank you and the other members of the Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee (CHPAC) for your letter of September 10, 2012, to Administrator Jackson providing comments on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ongoing review of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for particulate matter (PM). The Administrator asked me to respond to your letter.

My staff and I greatly appreciate the advice provided with regard to the proposed revision to the primary (health-based) annual PM_{2.5} standard as well as your general comments regarding our consideration of children's health issues in NAAQS reviews. We are carefully considering your comments and recommendations along with the other public comments we received on this issue to inform the agency's final decisions on the PM NAAQS. The agency is under a court-ordered deadline to issue the final rule by December 14, 2012.

Again, thank you for your letter and thoughtful comments.

Sincerely,

Director

Office of Air Quality Planning

and Standards

cc: Peter Grevatt, Director, Office of Children's Health Protection