

February 5, 2013

PM Advance, c/o Laura Bunte U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, C304-01 Research Triangle Park, NC 27711

Dear Ms. Bunte:

The Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency (YRCAA) would like to participate in PM Advance with respect to YRCAA's jurisdiction. We wish to join this partnership with EPA to further improve the air quality in our and others' jurisdictions within our air shed. We meet the following program eligibility requirements:

- (1) YRCAA's jurisdiction is not currently a nonattainment area for the 1997 or 2012 annual fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) or for the 2006 24-hour PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS;
- (2) YRCAA's jurisdiction consists of Yakima County outside the exterior boundaries of the Yakama Indian Reservation;
- (3) The 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue air monitor in Yakima reflects the air quality in YRCAA's jurisdiction; and
- (4) Existing emissions inventory reporting requirements have been met.

We understand that, together with our ongoing efforts, efforts under PM Advance may benefit our jurisdiction by potentially:

- Reducing air pollution in terms of PM<sub>2.5</sub> as well as other air pollutants;
- Ensuring continued healthy PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels;
- Maintaining the PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS;
- Helping avoid violations of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> NAAQS that could lead to a future nonattainment designation;
- Increasing public awareness about PM<sub>2.5</sub> as an air pollutant; and
- Targeting limited resources toward actions which most effectively address PM<sub>2.5</sub> problems quickly.

Our goal is to prevent and reduce  $PM_{2.5}$  emissions in our jurisdiction. We agree that it is in our best interest to work together and in coordination with stakeholders and the public to proactively pursue this goal. You may contact me at (509) 834-2050 and by e-mail at gary@yrcaa.org.

Sincerely,

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Gary W. Pruitt Executive Director