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04333-0001

Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

October 6, 2011

Mr. Curtis Spalding
Regional Administrator
USEPA Region I New England
5 Post Office Square
Mail Code: OSA01-4
Boston, MA 02109-3912

RE: Maine's Area Designation Recommendations for the new 1-hour Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard

Dear Administrator Spaulding:

I am pleased to submit Maine's recommended designation under the June 2, 2010 1-hour Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). Section 107(d)(1)(A) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) provides up to one year after adoption of new or revised NAAQS for states to submit recommendations identifying areas that violate or contribute to nearby violations of the revised NAAQS.

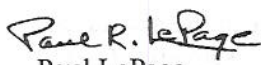
Consistent with Section 107(d)(1)(A) of the CAA and EPA guidance, Maine recommends that the entire state of Maine be designated as "unclassifiable" for the 1-hour SO₂ NAAQS.

Maine's Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) has monitored 1-hour SO₂ as prescribed by 40 CFR Part 58 Appendices D and E. Monitored data demonstrates compliance and is summarized in the Technical Support Document for Maine's Recommendation for the 1-hour SO₂ NAAQS. MEDEP also looked at monitored values in New Hampshire. The only monitor within 50 kilometers of the Maine border also demonstrates compliance.

No air quality modeling is available for designations using the "designation modeling guidance". MEDEP staff will be working with representatives of large sources of SO₂ to complete modeling analyses for the June 2013 SIP.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation. I have asked Melanie Loyzim, Acting Director of the Bureau of Air Quality, to be available (207) 287-6104 to answer any questions you may have regarding the recommended designation and SO₂ monitoring strategy.

Sincerely,


Paul LePage
Governor



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