

STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY GOVERNOR

January 22, 2011

Mr. Lawrence E. Starfield Administrator Deputy Regional Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Dear Administrator Starfield:

I am pleased to inform you that Texas continues to make progress with our air quality. Since 2000, Texans have seen a 53 percent reduction in industrial sources of nitrogen oxide emissions and a 27 percent reduction in ozone, both outpacing the national average. The Houston area recently met the eight-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone for the first time, while the Dallas/Fort Worth area is within one part per billion of meeting the standard.

Pursuant to the requirements in Section 107(d)(3) of the Federal Clean Air Act, enclosed is the recommendation for designation of areas in Texas with regard to the 2010 one-hour primary nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) NAAQS of 100 parts per billion.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) recommends that all counties in Texas with applicable NO_2 monitoring data (see Attachment A) be designated attainment and all other areas be designated as unclassifiable/attainment, based on the three most recent years of quality-assured air data from the current monitoring network for the years 2007-2009.

Enclosed is a resolution, with 2009 supporting data, containing the 2010 NO_2 NAAQS designation recommendation.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact TCEQ Chairman Bryan Shaw at (512) 239-5510.

Sincerely,

ICK YERRY

Rick Perry Governor

RP:tbpg

Enclosures cc: Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., Chairman, TCEQ