UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JAN 3 1 2012

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

The Honorable Pat Quinn
Governor of Illinois
207 State House
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Governor Quinn:

Thank you for the December 7, 2011 letter submitted by Laurel L. Kroack, Chief of the Bureau of Air at the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, certifying the State's 2011 ozone air quality data. This letter is to notify you of revisions to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's preliminary response to Illinois' air quality designation recommendations for the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), as specified in our December 9, 2011 letter.

In the December 9, 2011 letter, EPA agreed with Illinois' March 9, 2009 recommendations on the boundary and nonattainment ozone designation for the St. Louis-St. Charles-Farmington, Missouri-Illinois area. EPA also stated our intention to designate all other areas in Illinois as unclassifiable/attainment for the 2008 ozone NAAQS.

EPA policy is to consider 2011 data in the designations if states certify the data by February 29, 2012. On December 7, 2011, Illinois sent a letter to EPA submitting the state's 2011 certified air quality data for consideration in the ozone designation process. However, given the timing of the submittal, EPA was unable to consider Illinois' 2011 data in our December 9, 2011 letter. The 2011 ozone data indicate a monitored violation of the 2008 ozone NAAQS in Lake County, Illinois which is part of the Combined Statistical Area (CSA) that includes Chicago.

EPA has now had sufficient time to consider the certified 2011 data, along with Illinois' March 9, 2009 ozone designation recommendations. Consequently, because of monitored air quality that demonstrates a violation of the national health standard for ozone, EPA intends to designate the Chicago-Naperville, Illinois-Indiana-Wisconsin area as nonattainment, with boundaries that include: the counties and partial counties recommended by Illinois in its 2009 recommendations; Lake, Porter, and Jasper Counties in Indiana; and Kenosha County in Wisconsin. The enclosed Technical Support Document (TSD) is an addendum to the TSD enclosed with the December 9, 2011 letter, and provides a detailed analysis to support our intended designation for the counties in this area.

This is a unique situation because the CSA is a multistate area where only one of the states, Illinois, has submitted certified 2011 ozone data, which is not due until May 1, 2012. *See* 40 C.F.R. § 58.15.

During the 120-day process, EPA will continue to work with state officials regarding the appropriate designations and boundaries for the areas in Illinois. States will have time to review

Recycled/Recyclable • Printed with Vegetable Oil Based Inks on 100% Recycled Paper (50% Postconsumer)

these letters and provide EPA with information to support any further changes to EPA's response.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 312-886-3000, or Cheryl L. Newton, Director, Air and Radiation Division, at 312-353-6730.

Sincerely,

Susan Hedman
Regional Administrator

Enclosure (1)

cc: John J. Kim, Interim Director, and Laurel Kroack, Chief
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency